

## The Queen and Labour

What Jack Straw could learn from King Lear.  
John Redwood writes, page 7

## 13 pages of sport

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## Homeless and at risk

Why girls are sleeping rough in a world 'out of Dickens', page 8

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# THE TIMES

No. 65,135

MONDAY DECEMBER 12 1994

Yeltsin says troops have invaded Chechnya 'to uphold constitution and protect civilians'

## Russian tanks roll towards rebel capital

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

THOUSANDS of Russian troops in tanks and armoured vehicles invaded the breakaway republic of Chechnya yesterday as Moscow tried to use military might to reimpose authority over its most rebellious possession.

In a three-pronged dawn operation, armoured columns of Interior Ministry troops converged on the Chechen capital, Grozny, where the rebel government led by General Dzhokhar Dudayev was outnumbered but defiant.

The troops have been ordered to take control of oil refining facilities and oil pipelines running through the rebel region, Interfax news agency said, quoting an Interior Ministry source as saying that the troops had orders to "ensure the safety of industrial enterprises and other facilities around Grozny."

President Dudayev, a former Soviet Air Force general, whose presidential palace was raised by hundreds of heavily armed supporters from elderly Chechens in traditional fur hats to young militiamen in combat fatigues, said: "We will defend ourselves."

As panicked civilians were fleeing Grozny, volunteers from nearby mountain villages streamed into the capital vowing to defend their homeland. "I want to leave, but there aren't any buses," 67-year-old Katya Golsova, an ethnic Russian said, wringing her hands as she stood at a bus stop with her grandchildren.

Earlier, Chechens vowed that Russian troops would leave in coffins. "We may be

conquered, but they will take away more coffins than there are Chechens," General Dudayev's chief aide, Movlem Salamo said.

President Yeltsin said in a message to the nation that he had ordered his troops into Chechnya to protect civilians, uphold the constitution and help to find a "political solution". However, his assurances did little to ease concerns that the country was being dragged into a new Afghanistan, with troops locked into a long war.

Hundreds of protesters and politicians gathered in central

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Moscow, demanding that Russia halt the invasion and calling for the President's removal. Sergei Yushenkov, a reformist member of the lower house of parliament, said impeachment was the only way. "I see no other way of stopping the President," he told the demonstrators.

He said parliament would seek his removal. "They are setting up a commission to accuse the President of inflaming ethnic conflicts, provoking mass deaths of Russian citizens."

Mr Yeltsin's former chief reformer, Yegor Gaidar, said that any escalation could plunge the country into a bloody war and threaten dem-

ocratic reform. Emile Paine, a member of the presidential council, said: "An army cannot win a victory over the population."

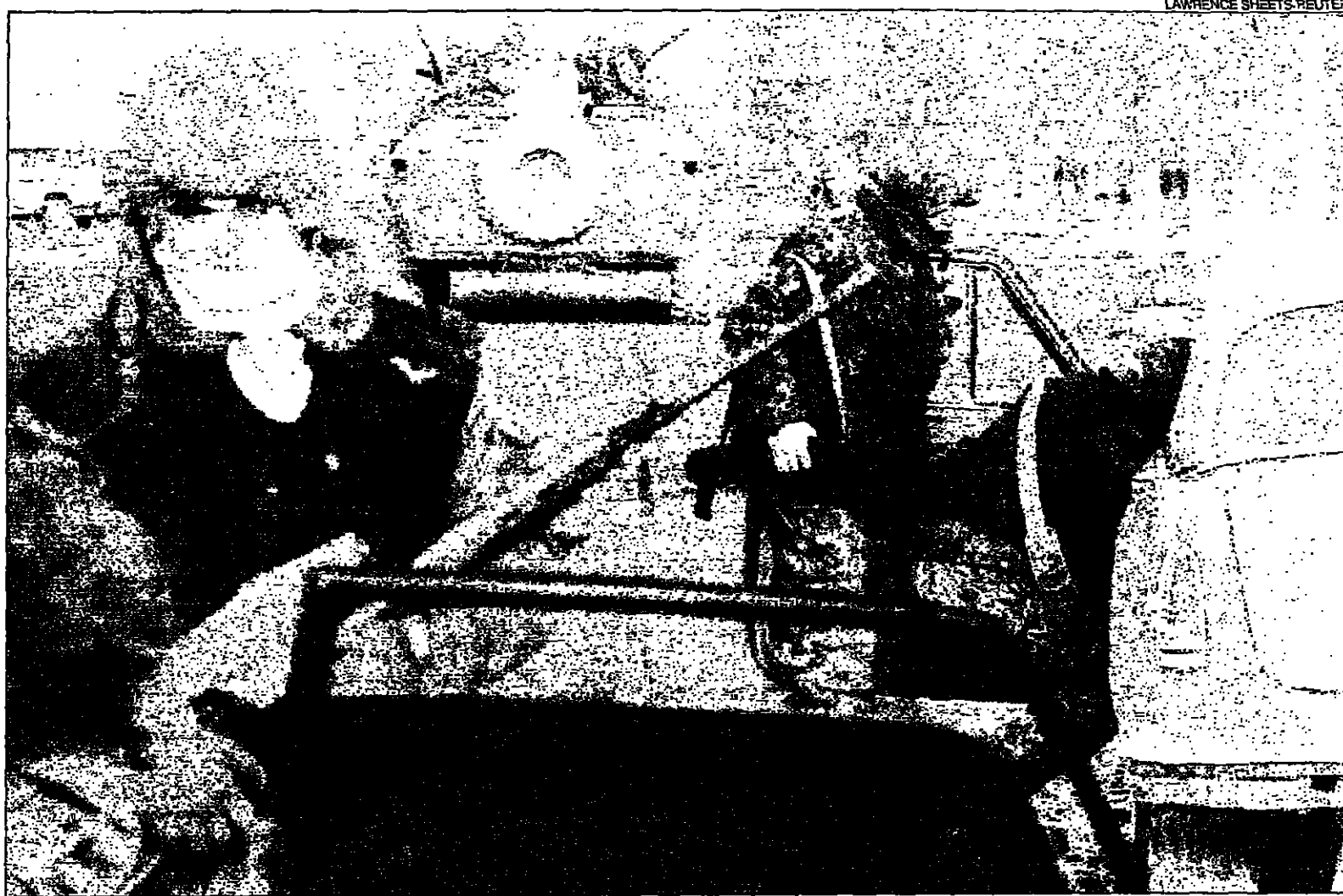
The statements by Mr Yushenkov and Mr Gaidar, the leaders of Russia's Choice, caused Andrei Kozirev, the Foreign Minister, to storm out of parliament's strongest liberal faction, saying his departure was "irreversible".

Witnesses on the Chechen borders said that the Russian invasion moved in simultaneously from Dagestan in the east, Ingushetia in the west and from North Ossetia in the northwest. The column moving through Ingushetia encountered resistance. Five Ingush citizens were killed and more than ten wounded in clashes. Boris Agapov, the Ingush Vice-President, said:

It is believed that the Russian show of force was calculated to give the Kremlin leverage when negotiations between Moscow and Grozny resume today.

Abubakarov Taimaz, the Chechen Economy Minister, said late last night that the Chechen authorities will hold talks with Russian officials despite the intervention, the largest Russian military operation since the Soviet forces invaded Afghanistan in 1979.

He said that he and eight others would hold talks with a Russian delegation at Vladikavkaz in the Russian republic of North Ossetia. The talks would be on "halting bloodshed, disarming armed groups", and "normalising the situation in Chechnya".



Invading Russian soldiers stop and check cars yesterday in the Tolstoi Yurt area, 25 miles into the breakaway republic of Chechnya

## Portillo urges Major to be Euro-sceptical

BY PHILIP WEBSTER  
POLITICAL EDITOR

MICHAEL Portillo yesterday laid down a challenge to the Cabinet pro-Europeans by calling on John Major to adopt a more Euro-sceptic agenda to end the "terrible rift" raging within the Conservative party.

At the same time the Cabinet's leading rightwinger appeared to put himself forward as a peacemaker in the clash between Mr Major and the nine Conservative Euro rebels, even though Mr Major yesterday accused them of "self-indulgence" and issued a warning that unity could not

be achieved by appeasement towards them. Mr Portillo called for "tolerance" and "a healing process" as the Prime Minister attempted to defuse the European timebomb by arguing that it was improbable if not impossible that monetary union could be achieved by the year 2000.

The Employment Secretary complicated the increasingly intense debate about a referendum on the future of the European Union, given added significance by the Prime Minister's signal at the European summit in Essen that he was prepared to consider the option, by suggesting that it

was not his preferred way of healing Tory wounds on Europe.

Tory rightwingers will tonight give renewed momentum to the referendum campaign with a debate in the 92 group, the largest backbench grouping, in which Kenneth Baker, the former Home Secretary, will be the main speaker. Yesterday Norman Lamont, the former Chancellor of the Exchequer, demanded an early referendum pledge, saying: "There is a danger of being second in this race and appearing to be forced into it either by rebels or by the Labour party." Mr

Portillo said it was not his "first choice" but conceded that many in the Tory party saw it as a way of restoring unity. He made plain, however, that his answer was for the Government as a whole to become more Euro-sceptic.

He said in an interview on *Breakfast with Frost* on BBC 1: "If the Conservative party comes out with a very clear and very united policy on Europe, which I emphasise would be bound to be more Euro-sceptic than our opponents or more Euro-sceptic than in the rest of the Continent that would be a much firmer basis on which to go

forward than saving we will leave this essential matter to a referendum." He said that people would probably vote in a referendum according to their opinion of the Government of the day, rather than on the issues at stake.

Mr Portillo's intervention on Europe, combined with his soothing call for tolerance towards the rebels, surprised senior Conservative MPs by its boldness. One of them said:

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Bosnia disarray, page 10  
Matthew Parris, page 18  
Leading article  
and Letters, page 19

## £17.8m lottery prize goes to single winner

THE winning National Lottery ticket for Saturday's £17.8 million jackpot is held by a single person, according to Camelot, the game's operator (Alexandra Freen writes).

This week's winning numbers were 26, 35, 38, 43, 47 and 49. The bonus number was 28. Camelot said that although the only person to match all six numbers came forward to claim the jackpot yesterday afternoon, it was not clear whether the winner would agree to publicity.

Saturday's jackpot was swollen by the rollover from the previous week's unclaimed £6.9 million top prize.

The Times will print the National Lottery winning numbers on the back page every Monday.

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## Delors steps back from presidency

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

JACQUES DELORS cast the French left into gloom last night by declaring that he would not run for the presidency despite a strong lead in opinion polls.

Ending weeks of indecision, the outgoing President of the European Commission said on French television that he had concluded that, if elected, he would be unable to form a government which would enable him to put his reformist ideas into action. "I would have the feeling that I had lied to the French," he said.

His calculation was based on the high chance that even if he called a new parliamentary election, the ruling centre and right-wing parties would win again. Under France's hybrid system, this would force another "cohabitation" between a Socialist president and Gaullist prime minister.

M. Delors's decision removes virtually any chance of another Socialist succeeding

President Mitterrand when he steps down in May. The party has little public support, and no other leader of presidential calibre.

Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, will now have the field clear to try to catch up with Edouard Balladur, the Prime Minister. He has been running far behind M. Balladur in opinion polls. Other candidates are expected to join the race, and the decision also means that the issue of Europe will probably not dominate the campaign.

Mr Delors's decision was welcomed privately last night by British ministers. The prospect of the Commission President succeeding M. Mitterrand had worried Tory Euro-sceptics with the prospect of an enthusiastically pro-federalist alliance between M. Delors and Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor.

Essen conference, page 10

## Winter sales come early

Shopkeepers are having to hold winter sales early to boost takings in the crucial days before Christmas.

Worst affected are smaller shopkeepers and clothing stores, who need to recoup November losses. Mild weather and last week's interest rate rise have led some retailers to claim they are facing their worst Christmas for 30 years. Page 40

## Student killed

Detectives are hunting the killer of Margarita Martin Zamorano, 22, a Spanish exchange student at Warwick University who was stabbed to death in the living room of the home she shared with other students. Page 3

## Leeds beat Wigan

Wigan's winning run at the top of the rugby league first division was ended after 14 matches by second-placed Leeds, who won 33-28 with a try in the last minute at Headingley. Page 30

## Two feared dead as floods hit Scotland

BY HELEN JOHNSTONE

TWO people were missing and more than 200 were evacuated from their homes last night as floods brought chaos to the west of Scotland. A group of MPs demanded that Renfrewshire, the worst-hit area, be designated a national disaster zone.

Water up to five feet deep threatened homes in Paisley and residents spent the night in community centres or with friends. Several families were evacuated from Kirkintilloch, north of Glasgow, when part of the town was swamped by four feet of water.

A man who escaped from a car which crashed off a bridge into a swollen stream at Queensferry, north of Glasgow, said two companions were trapped and had not managed to escape. A record four inches of rain fell on Glasgow over the weekend.

MPs seeking a meeting early today with Ian Lang, the Secretary of State for Scotland.

Photograph, and Forecast, page 22

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## Kasparov emerges as true king of world chess

BY RAYMOND KEENE  
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

A DRAMATIC twist in the Machiavellian world of international chess has created an unlikely alliance between two bitter enemies. Garry Kasparov, the world No 1, and the Filipino chess politician Florencio Campomanes.

The move comes on the eve of the presidential election for Fide, the international chess federation. To the relief of many grandmasters who dislike his authoritarian methods, Campomanes, 57, this year announced his retirement. But relief turned to consternation when the man known since 1982 as the "dictator of chess" changed his mind. The election

takes place tomorrow in Moscow, concurrent with the Olympiad (world team championship).

Despite the split last year, when Kasparov and Nigel Short, Britain's strongest ever player, broke away from Fide to form the Professional Chess Association, Kasparov is busy canvassing for him.

The decision of Campomanes, Kasparov's arch enemy since he prematurely terminated Kasparov's first world challenge, in Moscow, on February 15 1985, has shocked Grandmaster Bachar Kouatly, of France, international master Georgios Makropoulos, of Greece, and international master Joaquin Durao of Portugal, who have travelled the world

over the past 12 months pressing their credentials for the top position.

Kasparov apparently views Campomanes, who has agreed that all future matches will be held under the joint auspices of the PCA and Fide, as the only man with enough authority to ensure a grand reunification match against the Fide champion in 1996.

Campomanes will almost certainly emerge as a probable president for life from tomorrow's election. But recent developments will leave him president in name only. The real struggle will continue to be pulled by Kasparov himself.

Keene on chess, page 5  
Winning move, page 44



Kasparov: alliance with a former arch-rival



# Prime Minister sets tough conditions for restoration of Conservative whip

## Right appeals for rebels' return as Major stands firm

By Philip Webster, Political Editor

THE Conservative Right yesterday launched a campaign for an early return to the party fold of the eight MPs stripped of the whip for voting against the Government on the European finance Bill.

The Prime Minister made plain, however, that good behaviour was a prerequisite to allowing them back and said that he was in no mood for "appeasement".

Senior backbenchers said the whip should be restored as soon as possible after Christmas to reinstate the Government's majority, certain to be cut further this week as a result of the by-election at Dudley.

With the rebels on board, the majority would be 13 after Dudley. At present the Government is in a minority, with Teresa Gorman, Sir Teddy Taylor, Christopher Gill, John Wilkinson, Tony Marlow, Michael Cartiss, Nicholas Budgen, Richard Shepherd in limbo with Sir Richard Body, who resigned the whip.

John Major is taking a tough line, accusing the rebels of "self-indulgence" and telling them that they must back their party "persistently and consistently" to secure a return to the parliamentary party.

In an article in *The Mail on Sunday* Mr Major said they had known that the Govern-

ment would have been going back on its word if the Bill to increase payments to Brussels had failed, yet had defied the party whip anyway.

"They had been elected to the House of Commons as Conservatives to support the programme of the Conservative Government. So it is no use their pretending that their vote did not matter or that they did not know what the result would be. They took their action knowing the potential consequences both for themselves and for the country."

"That sort of self-indulgence

is neither understood nor accepted by the vast majority of their colleagues in Parliament, or by the country."

Mr Major added that the lessons of history were clear: the electorate would not give its trust to a party that was disunited. "But unity cannot be gained by appeasement," he said.

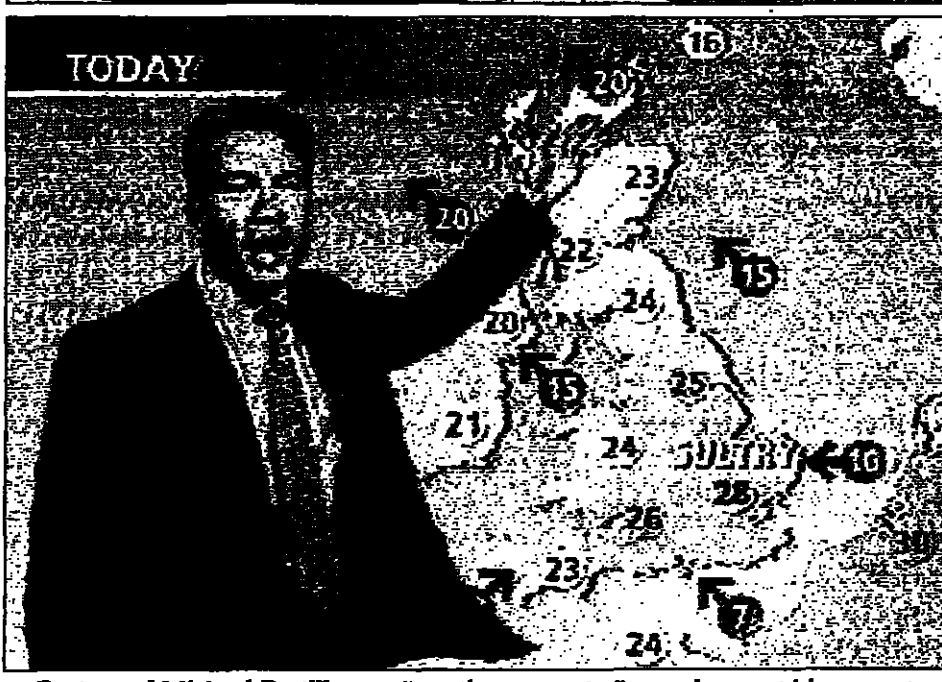
At the European summit in Essen he appeared to envisage a longer timetable for bringing back the rebels, saying: "I hope over the months to come they will show that they are Conservatives, they will support the Conservative Government, they will defend the Conservative philosophy, they will promote the manifesto on which they and I won the last election."

Sir George Gardiner, leader of the rightwing 92 group, urged reconciliation. He said: "We should all make some concessions to restore our parliamentary majority and party unity, and wipe the slate clean of the catastrophes of the past fortnight. We on the Right will do all we can to aid this process. With a little more generosity all round we can get the Tory party back on the road."

The Right is pressing for an early return to prevent the Government losing its majority on key Commons committees in the new year.

### Policy unit post offered to Maude

Francis Maude, a former Treasury minister, has emerged as a front-runner to succeed Sarah Hogg as head of the Downing Street policy unit. Mr Maude, who lost his seat at the 1992 election, is understood to be considering an approach. He is believed to be John Major's first choice but he will have to decide whether to give up his highly paid job with the bankers Morgan Stanley.



Footage of Michael Portillo as a "weather presenter" was shown at his request during the David Frost interview yesterday. The onetime Ribena kid struggled slightly with the autocue, but his enthusiasm for the job shone through

## Portillo challenges Cabinet to turn Euro-sceptic

Continued from page 1

that Mr Portillo was again making himself down as a future leadership contender. But his call for party unity chimed with others yesterday from the right. Sir George Gardiner, leader of the 92 group, said that all sides should make concessions "to restore our parliamentary majority and party unity." Mr Portillo said: "What we need to do now is to cool the thing down. We have to put our party back together."

The Essen summit provided much-needed relief for Mr Major from his domestic troubles, with declarations

on jobs, growth and competitiveness that could easily have been written in the Treasury, and agreement from Jacques Delors, the outgoing president of the European Commission, that enlargement of the EU would mean a fundamental rewriting of key planks such as the Common Agricultural Policy.

The Conservative right welcomed Mr Major's recognition that a referendum would be considered, and his warning to the federalist members of the EU that monetary union was becoming more and more unlikely as it grew larger and larger. In 10 years

there could be 27 members of the EU. "Now plainly it is a fatuous proposition to assume that in any timescale like that you are going to have a single currency across 27." However, a different emphasis came from Mr Kenneth Clarke, who attended the end-of-summit press conference with Mr Major. He disclosed that M Delors had presented papers to the summit that the only two countries who would be within the Maastricht single-currency criteria by 1996 were Germany and the United Kingdom. "In fact the United Kingdom rather more so than Germany because we

are the strongest recovering economies in Europe. We are recovering at the moment rather better than the Germans." But he added: "Whatever the Maastricht timetable may say I don't believe a majority of the member states is likely to be able to get that timetable."

Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, called for a wider debate on closer ties with Europe away from the "froth" of Westminster and for an "intelligent" debate about the single currency. The choice would not have to be made until 1999. "It gives us time to think it through."

A group of Euro-sceptic Tories returned from a meeting with 40 like-minded parliamentarians from the Continent with a draft manifesto designed to stop federalism in its tracks. The 11-point policy agenda of the European Research Group would hand back powers to national governments, scrap articles in treaties which provide for a single currency, and cut the EU budget.

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and Letters, page 19

### Summer seen as watershed for Ulster ceasefire

By Nicholas Watt, Ireland Correspondent

MINISTERS may decide to withdraw some of the 18,000 soldiers in Northern Ireland to the mainland if the IRA ceasefire holds until the summer.

Security sources see June as a watershed in the peace process because they believe the IRA would find it difficult to return to violence if its ceasefire holds until the summer. One source said: "We will have had peace for nearly a year by then and large numbers of people will not want to go back to violence."

Troops have already been withdrawn from the streets of Londonderry, their numbers have been substantially reduced in republican areas of west Belfast, and the "de-escalatory measures" will pick up in the new year if the ceasefire holds. By Easter, there will be few troops on the streets if the truce holds.

Security chiefs will make their decisions on the basis of intelligence reports on the IRA's commitment to the ceasefire in the New Year and at Easter. They will also gauge the level of support for the ceasefire at Sinn Féin's annual conference, expected in February, and at speeches at republican Easter parades.

The IRA is expected to review its ceasefire at Easter. Martin McGuinness, who is leading the party's delegation, will know by then if he believes the Government is prepared to make enough concessions to Sinn Féin. There has been disquiet within the movement over the "unarmed struggle", and Mr McGuinness will want something to show from his talks.

Gerry Adams, the Sinn Féin leader, said that the first round of talks on Friday were constructive. However, the Government's insistence that the IRA must "decommission" its guns and bombs before Sinn Féin can enter full talks, will prove a sticking point.

The Irish Labour party yesterday began formal negotiations with Fine Gael and the small Democratic Left party about forming a new coalition government.

### Main post offices to close in strike

Many main post offices are expected to close today because of a 24-hour walkout by counter staff belonging to the Union of Communication Workers over what the union says is backdoor privatisation.

The Post Office has urged workers not to join the strike but action by the traditionally well-disciplined union is expected to be successful. The strike is over the Post Office's moves to franchise out more of its operations to supermarkets.

### Chequers protest

About 500 people headed for Chequers for a mass trespass in the grounds in protest at the new Criminal Justice Act, but a heavy police presence kept the chanting demonstrators away from the Prime Minister's official country home in Buckinghamshire.

### Chase man shot

A passer-by was shot and wounded in the leg when he chased two armed robbers after a raid at a jewellery shop. Police withheld his name. The robbers escaped with a haul from the Laroche shop in Sheffield on Saturday evening.

### GCSE errors

The accuracy of GCSE marking was questioned by Dr Alan Teech, headmaster of Sturt Bathurst Roman Catholic School in West Midlands, where a third of English literature and a fifth of language exams were wrongly marked.

### Brady sues

Ian Brady, the Moors murderer, has been granted legal aid to sue the *Sunday Express* for alleged malicious falsehood. Judge Mordant will take the court in Ashworth special hospital on Merseyside today for a preliminary hearing.

### North Sea threat

Curbs on fishing to save the wildlife of the North Sea were called for by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. It says industrial fishing has decimated stocks and increased the risk of mass starvation in sea bird colonies.

### Black survey

Black inner-city teenagers see themselves as victims of police harassment and are ready to join vigilante groups to protect their communities from race attacks, according to a Policy Studies Institute survey of 2,500 youngsters. Racism in Britain, page 6

### Jailed abroad

About 2,000 Britons will spend Christmas in foreign prisons, many of them in squalid conditions, says a study by Dr Roger Matthews, reader in criminology at Middlesex University. The Foreign Office was said to be failing to give adequate help.

## Thatcher leads tributes to her mentor Lord Joseph

By Andrew Pierce

SENIOR Tories paid tribute last night to Lord Joseph, one of the principal architects of Thatcherism, who died on Saturday. Baroness Thatcher led praise for the man, better known as Sir Keith, whom she described as her personal mentor.

When Edward Heath's leadership of the Tory party was being questioned, she had urged Sir Keith to stand against him. "The fact that the baton unexpectedly passed to me, and that it was I who finally had the opportunity to put into practice what Keith believed, would perhaps have

embittered or at least disheartened a lesser man," she wrote in *The Sunday Telegraph*. "But he who had always been my senior, who had become my mentor, now moved without a murmur to become my closest and most trusted adviser — and he remained my dearest political friend."

John Major, who entered the Commons in 1979 when Lord Joseph was Industry Secretary in the first Thatcher Cabinet, said: "He was probably one of the foremost Conservative thinkers since the Second World War. His contribution to Conservative

thought and Conservative philosophy is perhaps unequalled in that period... He is a very great loss."

Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, said that Lord Joseph would be badly missed. "He was a kind man totally without self-importance. He did not mind what headlines he got. He was very interested in first principles, very interested in the thinking behind a decision. You need people like that in politics."

Peter Riddell, page 18  
Leading article, page 19  
Obituary, page 21

### Livingstone defends tax juggle

By Andrew Pierce

KEN Livingstone, the left-wing Labour MP, has defended his decision to avoid paying tax on his £53,000 non-parliamentary income last year.

The money, almost twice his MP's salary, was paid into his company, Localaction, of which he is sole director. On the advice of his accountant Mr Livingstone, an advocate of higher taxes for the rich, made himself a director's loan instead of taking a salary and paid 25 per cent instead of the top rate of 40 per cent.

He said, however, that the company account nearly always ran at a loss. "Expenditure on the account nearly always matches the income," he said.

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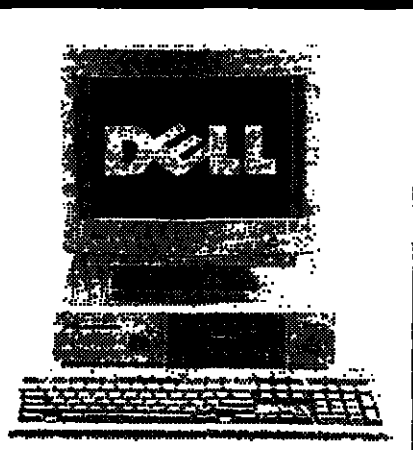
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# Love-life theory as hitman shoots Oxford scientist

By RICHARD FORD

AN OXFORD University scientist managed to make a 999 call as he lay dying after being shot by a hitman at his home. He was unable to speak to police who listened as he struggled for breath after suffering a single bullet wound to the chest.

Police who went to the house on the Blackbird Leys estate found the doors locked and Dr Michael Meenaghan, 35, lying in a pool of blood on the kitchen floor.

Last night police were investigating Dr Meenaghan's tangled love-life for clues to a possible motive for the killing after a post-mortem examination found that he died from a chest haemorrhage caused by a gunshot wound.

The dead man was a researcher in molecular biology at the Sir William Dunn school of pathology at the university. Tim Beesley, a colleague, said: "His research was straightforward and certainly not controversial."

"The circumstances of his death are very strange and I cannot think what is behind it. I wasn't a close friend but he didn't seem to be troubled or to have any particular personal problems."

Detective Superintendent Jon Bound, heading the murder inquiry, said yesterday that BT operators heard Dr Meenaghan dialling 999.

"The emergency call was

passed over to the police. No speech was heard but someone struggling for breath could be heard in the background," he said.

"Police went to the house and it appeared secure. Looking through the kitchen window, a man's body was seen lying on the floor."

"Officers forced their way in and the body of Dr Michael Meenaghan was found. A telephone in the kitchen was found to be off the hook and the victim had been shot through the chest."

A single shot had been fired through the kitchen window at Dr Meenaghan, a PhD, who had recently increased security at his terrace home. He changed to an ex-directory telephone number, kept the curtains drawn and ensured that his doors were always locked.

A detective on the case said: "The house was locked up when we arrived and we had to break in. It appears the shot was fired from outside. It looks like some sort of contract killing."

His killer had sneaked along a narrow alley at the side of the modern house and fired at point blank range as Scots born Dr Meenaghan, who was single, made a cup of tea at 4.30pm on Saturday.

Last night detectives were investigating his love life. He had lived at the house for the past five years but earlier this

year a woman who had shared the house with the pony-tailed academic left and another woman and her young son moved in, only to move out again after a few weeks.

Val Dorgan, a neighbour, said: "Although he was very quiet and private he seemed to have a tangled love life."

Police made house to house inquiries yesterday to find out whether anyone on the estate saw the killer. Detectives were known to have examined a series of letters found in Dr Meenaghan's house which suggested a series of relationships he had had with women.

The dead man was educated at St Modan's school, Stirling, went to Stirling University where he gained a BSc in biology, MSc in biochemistry. He researched his doctorate at Bristol University.

He was an only child and last night his widowed mother, Patricia, was being comforted by relatives. The dead man's aunt said: "His mother and I are shattered by this. It is a tragedy. Michael was all she had left."

"He had done wonderfully well at school and university and had a great career ahead of him." Mrs Meenaghan will travel to Oxford today.

Dr Herman Waldman, head of the Sir William Dunn School of Pathology, declined to comment on the killing.



Margarita Zamorano was due to have flown back to Madrid for Christmas. Her bloodied body was found on Saturday evening at her house in Coventry, above

# Student dies in frenzied knife attack at college house

By RICHARD FORD

DETECTIVES were last night hunting the killer of a Spanish exchange student stabbed to death in the living room of her home. Margarita Martin Zamorano, who was studying at Warwick University, died in a "frenzied knife attack" at a house in Canley, Coventry, which she shared with other students from the university.

Neighbours were alerted to the murder on Saturday evening when one of the students ran from the house screaming and shouting that they had found the pregnant woman, aged 22, in a pool of blood. She had been knifed to death and left lying on the floor with a knife stuck into her side up to its hilt.

Detective Superintendent Bob Rankin said police found the student dead from multiple stab wounds. He told a press conference yesterday:

"A post mortem examination revealed Margarita died from multiple stab wounds to the chest and back consistent with a frenzied attack."

He said a small vegetable knife found at the scene was believed to be the murder weapon. Mr Rankin said that Margarita had been in the house all day and police believe she knew her killer. "Apart from the violence of the attack, there were no signs of violence in the house. We are not looking for someone who was a stranger to Margarita."

The student was spending a year at Warwick University on exchange from a university at Madrid, where she was studying politics. Term ended on Friday and she was due to have travelled home to Madrid in the next two weeks. Her father is flying to Coventry today.

Mr Rankin said students at the university would be interviewed about the killing. Mr Rankin said last night that it was not known if she had a steady boyfriend but they wanted to trace a man seen leaving the house shortly before the body was found. They described him as aged about 25, 5ft 6ins tall and slim.

Stella Handley, a neighbour of the students, said: "I had

just sat down to watch the Generation Game when the doorbell started ringing nineteen to the dozen. One of the students from next door was screaming and shouting that her pregnant house mate was lying on the floor in a pool of blood."

Mrs Handley, 61, added: "I thought she must have had a miscarriage so I went round to see if I could do anything. She was lying in the kitchen in a pool of blood."

"I felt for a pulse on her neck and wrist but couldn't find one. I tried mouth to mouth and chest massage anyway but she was already dead. Her body was cold. It was while trying chest massage that I



Handley: found victim lying in pool of blood

saw a knife sticking in her side up to its hilt and I realised what had happened."

Maurice Handley, 64, said a student arrived at his front door screaming that her friend had been stabbed. His wife rushed to the house. "There were two other students in the house and they were both panicking."

The university has rehoused the four other students who were receiving counselling yesterday to help them cope. Jim Rushton, deputy registrar, said: "The university is in a state of shock. Everyone is upset but we will carry on. It is the first time we have had to deal with an incident like this."

# Peer avoids court over farm

MOVES to prosecute the Earl of Mexborough for altering an historic farm without permission have been dropped after he agreed to restore the building to its former glory.

Lord Mexborough, who will have to spend tens of thousands of pounds to return the 18th century listed building to its former condition, faced being taken to court over work which planners said seriously damaged the character of Risbrow

Farm, close to his home Arden Hall, near Helmsley in North Yorkshire.

North Yorkshire National Park Authority had authorised the prosecution after planning officers discovered that the building had been gutted, outbuildings demolished and an extension built where another building had been knocked down.

Sash windows had been replaced by double glazed units and five big roof lights were fitted to the rear of the

Grade II listed limestone and sandstone farmhouse.

David Forster, a National Park officer, confirmed that legal proceedings were being dropped. He said they had secured legally binding undertakings to restore the building to what it was.

Lord Mexborough, father of Lady Alethea Savile, 31, who killed herself with a suspected drugs overdose in September, faced a maximum fine of £20,000 for the offence if convicted.

# Arsenal manager denies being paid £285,000 in transfer deal

By JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

GEORGE GRAHAM, the Arsenal manager, has denied allegations that he received a secret payment of £285,000 as part of a transfer deal. The club held a board meeting yesterday to discuss the allegations and promised afterwards to co-operate with a Premier League inquiry into claims that Mr Graham took money as part of the £1.57 million deal that brought John Jensen, the Danish international, to Highbury in 1992.

Under FA rules, full payments have to be disclosed to the football authorities. The Mail on Sunday had reported that neither Arsenal nor the Premier League knew about this alleged payment. If the claims are proved, Mr Graham could face a fine or suspension from football.

The propriety of the national game has been heavily blighted in recent weeks. Paul Merson, the Arsenal midfielder player, has confessed that he had a cocaine habit and Bruce Grobbelaar, the former Liverpool and now Southampton goalkeeper, is the subject of allegations, which he denies, that he was involved in match fixing.

Mr Graham, who was preparing the Arsenal team yesterday for tonight's Premier

league game at Manchester City, said: "The only thing I have to say is that I have not profited from any transfers and I think it is important that this is made clear."

In his eight years at Arsenal, the club's victories have included two league championships, a unique double of the FA Cup and League Cup in the same season, and victory in the European Cup Winners' Cup last May.

Graham, 50, was a member of the Arsenal team that completed the double of the FA Cup and football league championship in 1971. He had

previously been with Aston Villa and Chelsea where he became a close friend of Terry Venables who was later to be best man at his wedding.

Graham subsequently played for Manchester United, Portsmouth and Crystal Palace. He won 12 caps for Scotland during his career. Venables appointed Graham as youth team coach at Crystal Palace when the now England manager was in charge at Selhurst Park.

Ken Friar, the Arsenal managing director, said: "Payment in respect of transfers were made in full directly by

Arsenal to the club concerned in the normal manner and copies of all documentation were deposited with the appropriate authorities at the time."

He added that Arsenal would be co-operating with the Premier League inquiry "which is due to take place shortly when all the facts of transfers as known to us, will be placed before it".

Mr Friar said the club would be making no further statement. The Premier League promised that "all the matters raised in connection with possible transfer irregularities will be investigated rigorously". The Commission of Inquiry of Rick Parry, chief executive of the Premier League, Steve Coppell, the former manager and England international, and Robert Reid, QC, was set up to investigate allegations of under-cover payments in transfer deals involving Tottenham Hotspur, Arsenal's great north London rivals.

During its investigations, the commission received details from Fifa, soccer's world governing body, about the activities of Rune Haug, a Norwegian agent and a central figure in the transfer of Jensen from Brondby in Denmark.



Graham: said he had never profited from transfers

# Students appoint pagan priestess

THE Rev Susan Leybourne, a "white witch", has been appointed as the country's first pagan university chaplain. She will give talks and guide students at Leeds University in magic, rituals and worship.

Ms Leybourne, 29, holds the same responsibilities, religious influence and status as the university's 11 other chaplains, who represent most Christian denominations and Judaism.

She was ordained as a pagan priestess at The Circle University of Springfield, Louisiana, and is a minister of the Congregational Church of Practical Theology — a religion that encompasses pagan believers.

Ms Leybourne said: "When young people come to university it is probably the first chance they have had to take an active interest in the occult. If all one has done is read up on the subject

it can be quite easy to fall into the dark side. As a witch and a chaplain, I am there to give advice. So if a young girl tells me she has got in touch with a religious group which claims it is necessary as part of its worship to have sex with the high priest at full moon I can tell them that is wrong."

Students from Leeds University Occult Society asked the witch to become their chaplain. As a pagan priestess she will help mark festivals, such as Halloween and the winter solstice. She will also perform rituals to help the students' studies.

"Witchcraft does put a big emphasis on controlling your future by magic. It channels your will — for example 'I want to pass my exams' — and one big ritual using magic will help the students by focussing this will," she said. The university's senior Anglican

chaplain, the Rev Simon Robinson, accepted that the witch had a role to play. "We already have chaplains for different religions, including many Christian denominations, and Ms Leybourne will look after the welfare of pagans and will make it known that she is there to help."

"She was invited in by the students and she is not, as is the case for all the chaplains, a university appointment."

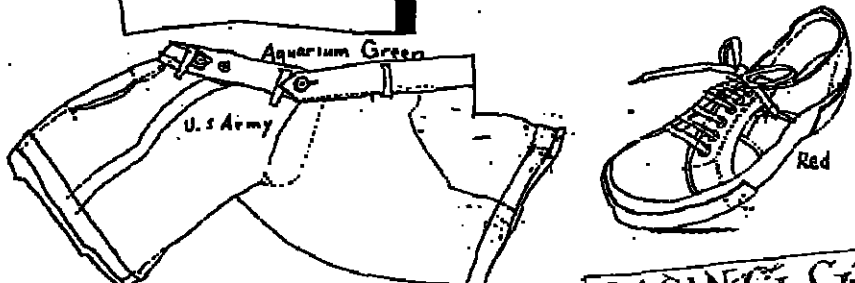
But the Roman Catholic Vicar-General in Leeds, Monsignor Peter McGuire, expressed worries over increased interest in the occult. He said: "If Miss Leybourne is able to promote the welfare and wellbeing of pagan students, that's fine."

"Naturally, as a Christian, I am apprehensive about the increasing interest in the occult. It is dangerous and declares God redundant."

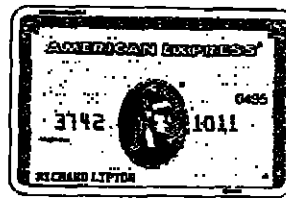
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# NHS units 'unable to cope' with rise in kidney patients

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

A SUDDEN rise in the number of people with kidney failure is straining NHS resources and putting thousands of lives at risk, according to an unpublished national survey.

The study, commissioned by the Health Department, says twice as many people need kidney treatment as are receiving it and the increase in demand will accelerate over the next decade. The shortfall is worst in the North, where some patients have already been turned away by kidney units unable to cope. Patients with renal failure who do not receive treatment die within a few months.

The results of the first national review of renal services, described as a "time-bomb" by one expert, have been with ministers for six months but the implications are so alarming that it is still uncertain whether it will be published.

The review, chaired by

Netar Mallick, professor of renal medicine at Manchester Royal Infirmary, was set up after studies in the South East disclosed up to sixfold differences in provision between districts. The results were sent to ministers last June and they were due to be revealed this month.

Ministers are worried about the cost of implementing the report's recommendations, expected to run into hundreds of millions of pounds, and the fatal consequences of ignoring them. The review says that an urgent expansion of renal services is required to avert a crisis.

At least 80 new patients per million population are estimated to require treatment for kidney failure each year but the average level of provision in England is only 65 patients per million and in some areas the rate is as low as 20 per million. Raising the national "take-on" rate from 65 to 80 patients per million per year

would double the number of patients receiving treatment to 44,000.

Treatment for kidney failure is highly expensive. Transplant patients are estimated to cost £7,000 a year in drugs and other treatment, home dialysis costs £10,000 a year and treatment on a kidney machine, which normally requires three sessions a week, costs £18,000 a year. Total costs could rise from £250 million to £500 million.

The report says that demand will rise further as the population ages, especially in areas with a high ethnic minority population. Among blacks and Asians, the incidence of kidney failure is between three and eight times that among whites, depending on age. A report in the *British Medical Journal* last October concluded that "dialysis facilities must expand disproportionately" in districts with a high ethnic minority population.



George Lazenby, Lois Maxwell and Desmond Llewellyn at the lunch organised by the James Bond fan club

## One-film Bond stirs fan club's enthusiasm

A MARTINI, extra dry - shaken, not stirred - was consumed by the actor George Lazenby at the James Bond fan club's Christmas lunch yesterday. The star of *On Her Majesty's Secret Service* was guest of honour at the event, where he was reunited with Miss Moneypenny, alias Lois Maxwell, and the gadgets

wizard "Q", Desmond Llewellyn. It was the first time the club had enticed one of the actors who played Ian Fleming's debonair spy. Lazenby, 57, an Australian, played Bond only once, 25 years ago. Club members came from across Britain as well as The Netherlands, Belgium, France, Sweden, Denmark

and Germany for the £50-a-head party at Pinewood Studios. Graham Rye, club president, said: "We crammed in more than 200 people because there were so many who didn't want to miss the chance to meet George." Lazenby lives in the United States and plays a general in the new American civil war film *Gettysburg*.

## Why women turn to THE TIMES

'I particularly like Libby Purves's articles on Mondays'

Suki Turner, 45, musical actress and dancer



'I think *The Times* is now a really good package. The foreign coverage takes every thing in from all the four corners of the world, and the home news coverage is comprehensive too'

More women are making *The Times* their daily newspaper. From May to October this year, female readership increased by 31 per cent, a larger gain than any other national newspaper

## SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Dealer North

Love all

♠ 9753	♥ J854	♦ A1096	♣ 7
♠ A842	♥ 83	♦ Q5	♣ A J1093
♠ KQ106	♥ A1072	♦ 87	♣ K85

W	N	E	S
Wolff	1♠	Hamman	1♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT
All pass			

Opening lead: ♠3

By ROBERT SHEEHAN  
BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

The American player Robert Hamman has led the world rankings for many years, with his partner Bobby Wolff, past World Bridge Federation President, only just behind. On this deal Hamman had to keep his wits about him to beat 3NT.

Hamman won his partner's lead with the ace and returned the suit, declarer winning with the king and discarding a club from the dummy. Declarer played a diamond to the jack and queen and Hamman returned another spade, declarer winning with the queen and discarding a second club from dummy.

Declarer now played a diamond to his king and another diamond to Wolff's ten. Hamman discarding his last spade and declarer throwing a club. At this stage the contract can be beaten in top tricks -

three diamonds and two black aces but it was not clear to West that his partner had the ace of clubs. Instead of cashing out, Wolff switched to the seven of clubs and declarer played the queen from dummy.

By now the dummy had the queen and a small club and the declarer king and a small one. Had Hamman won the ace and returned a club, Wolff could have discarded a spade, but when declarer cashed his long spade, Wolff would have been squeezed, unable to discard either red suit without presenting declarer with his ninth trick. Foreseeing this, Hamman ducked the queen of clubs and declarer was at the crossroads. As the cards lie, he could have succeeded merely by playing another diamond, but he did not know that clubs were breaking 5-1. Instead he played off his winners, hoping for four heart tricks, and went one down.

## KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE  
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

### Little Russians lead

The Russian B team, which has become affectionately known as the "Little Russian" team, continues to race ahead in the chess olympiad at Moscow. They are led by the fiery young player Alexander Morozov who won the Lloyds Bank Masters with a record score in London in August. After nine rounds of the Moscow Olympiad, the Little Russians, having dispatched Yugoslavia by the score of 3-1, have 24.5 points. The Russian A team led by Garry Kasparov has 23.5. The olympiad finishes at the end of this week.

### England languishing

The English team continues to struggle after the weekend's results, which included a team loss to Bosnia. The following game by the out of form London Grandmaster John Nunn is typical of the team's problems.

White: Nunn

Black: Sitaru

Moscow Olympiad, 1994

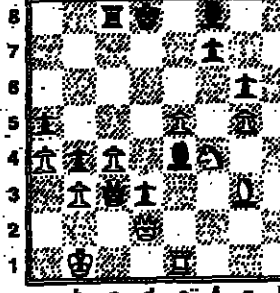
### Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5	6 e6
2 Nf3	6d4
3 d4	Nf5
4 Nc3	d6
5 Nc3	g6
6 Bg3	b5
7 f3	b4
8 g4	h6
9 Nc2	e5
10 Qd2	d5
11 Nf5	Qa5
12 0-0-0	Be6
13 Kb1	

14 Nc1	d4
15 Bf2	g6
16 Ng3	Nc6
17 h4	Re8
18 Bc3	Nc5
19 g5	Nc3
20 Qc3	hug5
21 h5	Re1
22 Re1	Nc7
23 Ng2	Bc7
24 Qc2	Cb5
25 Nc3	a5
26 f4	Kc8
27 b3	Nc5
28 Nc5	Qc5
29 Qc3	Bb
30 Bg3	Bc7
31 h5	Bb5
32 Qc2	c8
33 c4	Be6
34 Nf4	Bc4
35 Re1	Qc4
36 a4	Qc3

White resigns

Diagram of final position



### Botvinnik's complaint

Mikhail Botvinnik, the 83-year-old former world champion, has written an angry open letter to the World Chess Federation congress in Moscow protesting at speed chess. He says: "Chess is not viewed as having its own value but as a marketable product. This is the reason for promoting rapid chess."

Winning move, page 44

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## Racism in Britain

# Anger over UN investigation into minority rights

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

PLANS for a three-year United Nations investigation into race relations in Britain have split equal rights campaigners and black pressure groups.

The inquiry into discrimination in the legal system, education, housing, health and unemployment has been welcomed by the Commission for Racial Equality (CRE). But some black groups and unions doubt that it will lead to any improvements in race relations.

MPs also questioned the UN inquiry. The Conservative Dame Jill Knight said: "We have already spent a considerable amount of time working

on the Home Affairs Select Committee report on this issue and all they need to do is to read that."

A special inspector from the UN Human Rights Commission is to be sent to Britain to study discrimination and intolerance. His investigation will be part of a wider scrutiny of developing nations' policies towards ethnic minorities.

A series of meetings between the UN inspector, Maurice Glegle-Ahanhanzo from Benin in west Africa, and Home and Foreign Office ministers was due to start last week but Mr Glegle-Ahanhanzo cancelled at the

last minute due to "unforeseen circumstances".

While the Government is keen to emphasise that Britain has not been singled out for special attention, the CRE believes more legislation is needed to protect black communities. Racist incidents have risen by 50 per cent during the past five years to 130,000 annually, Margaret Mchile of the CRE said.

"Unfortunately there are some people who are intent on derailing any progress made towards combating racist attacks, and although Britain has had more comprehensive race relations legislation than other European countries, we believe there is room for improvement."

Claude Moraes, director of the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, welcomed the inquiry. "This Government may introduce new legislation if the two reports turn out to be internationally embarrassing," he said.

However, Makbool Javaid, chairman of the Society of Black Lawyers, said: "You cannot fight racial discrimination by proclamation. The report is destined to gather dust." Bill Morris, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers Union, said: "I do not need the UN to tell me about racism and they do not need to tell black people what we already know."

The CRE and Equal Opportunities Commission publish today a survey that says black and ethnic minority people have above-average unemployment. Unemployment of ethnic minority women is 16 per cent compared with 6 per cent for white women; for ethnic minority men the figure is 20 per cent, almost double that for white men.

Leading article, page 19

## Inspector will shame culprits

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE United Nations created the post of special rapporteur on racial discrimination last year after complaints that its human rights investigations focused almost exclusively on Third World countries.

Maurice Glegle-Ahanhanzo is one of a growing number of UN human rights investigators whose aim is to shame countries into improving their behaviour. Turkey played a leading role in the appointment, anxious to direct international attention on to the growing number of attacks on Turkish migrant workers in Germany.

Western governments supported the post, alongside existing UN rapporteurs on such subjects as torture, despite fears that it would be used against them. "It is quite right that there should be such a special rapporteur," one

Western official said yesterday. "It is clearly an international concern."

Mr Glegle-Ahanhanzo, of Benin, has won praise so far for his balanced approach. He has already visited the United States, where he attended hearings organised by human rights organisations, and is due to go to Germany in February. British officials had prepared an elaborate schedule of meetings for his trip, and were disappointed when he had to cancel at short notice.

UN rapporteurs can condemn rights abuses in their reports to the UN Human Rights Commission, but have no other sanctions. The commission itself can condemn countries in resolutions, and, in severe cases, may even urge the UN General Assembly to do the same.



Judy Goodman holding one of the 2,500 geese that she has raised for the Christmas trade this year

## Geese carve a slice out of market

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY  
AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

THE goose, once the centre of the Christmas table, is coming back into favour. This year Britons are expected to eat nearly 400,000 of the birds, the largest number for 50 years, although that is dwarfed by an annual consumption of 25 million turkeys.

In Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*, Bob Cratchit and his family make do with goose for Christmas dinner because they cannot afford a costlier fowl. When a repentant Scrooge seeks to atone for past miserliness he sends the Cratchits a prize turkey. The two birds have changed places in the culinary pecking order since then.

A goose is now a luxury food that can leave you little change out of £50 while

factory-farmed frozen turkeys are miracles of cheapness, if not of flavour, that can be had for less than £3.

Twelve years ago Judy Goodman began rearing geese as a hobby at Great Willey, Hereford and Worcester, with 100 birds. Now she is vice-chairman of the 90-member British Goose Producers' Association, runs a business with a turnover of £80,000 and will slaughter 2,500 birds for Christmas this year.

"People are prepared to pay a high price for something that is special and has real taste," she said yesterday. "I am kicking myself because I could easily have sold another 500 birds. I had to stop taking orders at the end of last month." Her customers are undeterred by having to pay up to £32 at the farm gate for a 12lb goose or £44 if they want it brought to their door. Geese are

stubborn creatures: nobody has found a way of forcing them to submit to the intensive production methods that have slashed the costs of other poultry. As a result, they are allowed to spend most of their lives outdoors on grass and stubble, which is part of their appeal.

Mrs Goodman buys day-old goslings from a breeder in Norfolk, the first batch arriving in April. Within 28 days the birds are strong enough to be put out to grass during the day. At night they are housed in polythene shelters or in cattle sheds to protect them from foxes.

The birds are slaughtered on the farm when they are about 30 weeks. After being dry-plucked and waxed, to remove the last vestiges of feathers and dirt, they are hung with giblets intact for ten to 14 days to sharpen the flavour.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Horses hit by mystery illness

Up to 600 horses have contracted an unidentified illness that affects co-ordination and ability to stand. At least 15 stables in southeast England have been affected. Vets said the illness may be caused by contamination of feed by toxic mould. No horses have died.

### Marina blast

Two men died in an explosion on a yacht moored at Woolverstone marina, Suffolk. Their names were not released by police, who said the cause of the blast was not known. There were not thought to be any suspicious circumstances.

### Driverless car

Joyriders sent a stolen car careering driverless along a seafront road in Brighton. It smashed into a lorry, and police were pelted with lumps of metal from the promenade 50ft above as they cleared the wreckage.

### Call for wolf ban

The Home Secretary has been asked to ban the sale of wolf hybrids. Peter Hardy, Labour MP for Wentworth, urged a ban after they were advertised in a magazine. "The animals are totally unsuitable for pets or guard duties," he said.

### Car thief trap

Car break-ins in Oxford have fallen from 200 cases a week to 90 in five months since police began planting sought-after cars, baited with costly music systems and mobile telephones, in car parks and high-risk areas of the city.

### Plain wrappers

The Daintee confectionery company is exporting toffees to Saudi Arabia in plain wrappers because its trademark of a ballerina in tutu and tights, used by the Blackpool family firm since 1928, offends the Islamic moral code.

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Radical politicians would do well to learn a timely lesson from Shakespeare's tragic monarch

# Why Jack Straw should be reading King Lear

As Jack Straw read *King Lear*, Dividing Britain into three and stripping monarchy of its followers puts you on the road to destruction. Is that what he wants? Once you start to transfer powers from Westminster to Edinburgh and Cardiff you will undermine Scottish and Welsh representation in the Parliament of the Union.



**John Redwood believes curtailing the trappings of the Royal Family and seeking to reduce its numbers is only a short step to destroying the authority of the constitution**

Goneril sought to cut King Lear's retainers to 50. Her sister Regan thought 50 too many. Goneril trumped her by asking: what need for one? Lear replied: "Reason not the need; our basest beggars are in the poorest thing superfluous." Lear saw this more clearly than other things as he hovered on the edge of madness.

When the Labour Party questions the cost of the Rolls-Royce that takes the Queen on an official engagement, it sets out on a course that in the end could bring down the monarchy. If the Queen is not to have the best Rolls-Royce, who should say which model suffices? Why not a Jaguar? If a Jaguar is too expensive why not a Ford Scorpio or even a Vauxhall Cavalier?

Mo Mowlam has asked why the Queen needs to live in Buckingham Palace. While she has not suggested that the Queen should live in a semi-detached council house, she has said that the Queen be rehoused in a more modest building paid for entirely by the state. Such a home would have no historical associations, no royal money involved, no treasure chest of national memories. Is this a fitting end for a monarchical tradition that has served this country so well for more than a thousand years?

Mr Straw says he will define how big the Royal Family should be. Matter not how many children they have, or how many aunts, uncles, nephews and nieces there are: Mr Straw and a few elected friends will decide how many of these people should be regarded as royal. He seems unable to grasp that the Royal Family is a true family, a family based on blood ties. Labour seems to seek a selected rather than an inherited monarchy.

The issue is much wider than this important question of how the royal household should be conducted. It goes to the heart of what kind of country we are. Can we continue to look the past in the eye? Conservatives have always wanted a society with equality of opportunity. We have never believed that equality of outcome can be achieved. If you gave everybody in the country the same income by administrative order, within a year there would be very different lifestyles. We are happy for people to show their differ-

ences, for society to thrive on its diversity. We also believe that the success of our society is based upon our inheritance from the past.

In Britain, almost uniquely among European nations, we can say that we are at ease with our past. We have not had to tear down our royal palaces or convert them into soulless museums. We have not had to bulldoze our great churches or convert them into warehouses. We have not had some great constitutional rupture in our affairs in the way that the French, Germans and Italians have had in comparatively recent times. I remember Russian visitors coming to the House of Commons shortly after the collapse of communism in their country. They were overwhelmed by the beauty of the tapestries, the paintings and embellishments of the Palace and sensed immediately something that British people feel in their hearts. Here is a nation proud of its past. Labour would throw away the unity of the kingdom by creating a parliament for Scotland, a senate for Wales and regional assemblies for England. These bodies would tax more and legislate more. They would take powers away from Westminster, powers away from local government and above all more power away from individuals and families. Worse still, they open up the questions long since settled in the British constitution.

Why should Scotland and Wales be more generously represented than England? Why should Scottish and Welsh MPs vote on English health, local government, education? We accept that the constitutional settlement from the Act of Union and beyond is right. An MP from whatever part of the United Kingdom has an equal right to aspire to the highest office in the land and to contribute to the formation of policy wherever its writ may run in the United Kingdom. It is this which Labour now wishes to cast asunder.

Of course, if they introduced new parliaments and assemblies there would be a mood to limit the powers which those areas have in the Parliament of the whole United Kingdom. Of course, if there were new parliaments there would be pressure to stop Scottish and Welsh MPs from contributing on English subjects. The Queen recently visited Russia. Everyone knew she came as the Queen of the

United Kingdom. Every other nation was envious of the success of our royal visit because they knew it was something they could not hope to imitate or match. As they watched the Beating of the Retreat, the ambassadors of other countries recognised that the United Kingdom still has an appeal which stretches far beyond the English Channel. How would we feel if instead of the Queen visiting on behalf of the United Kingdom, some retired Union Leader or former Conservative minister turned up in Russia in a Jaguar, entertained them in a hotel or the embassy, and said that he could speak only on behalf of England or Scotland or Wales? Britain's constitutional history is a success story. Our institutions have inspired and continued to inspire the world. We have avoided revolution, the worst civil strife and the worst of the new ideologies of the 20th century. Our ideas of equality under the law, one man, one vote, limited government, the strong parliamentary scrutiny of everything the government does, still inform the world on how best people can govern themselves. Jack Straw may well wish to belong to a long list of metropolitan radicals - Wat Tyler, the Levellers, Tom Paine, Keir Hardie and the Bloomsbury Group who thought that constitutions were the playthings of radicals pandering to interest groups.

Rancorous radicalism is the last thing we need. Tolerance in Britain is no accidental by-product or the result of the British being intrinsically more humane than our neigh-



Radical tradition: Maynard Keynes, Virginia Woolf, Jack Straw, Keir Hardie, Thomas Paine and Wat Tyler

bours. It is the result of our institutions and of their ability to transcend the lobbying of the moment. British people accept the supremacy of Parliament because it has worked for them over many decades.

King Lear was a foolish old man who was prepared to tear apart the kingdom he loved and leave it to his daughters whom he thought loved him. He was unwilling to accept the consequences of his actions

and unable to see who truly loved him. He plunged that kingdom into civil violence. Labour would be well advised to study the tragedy of King Lear. The United Kingdom is not best rent into three. Chal-

enge the trappings of royalty one day and the next you will destroy the authority of the constitution.

John Redwood is the Secretary of State for Wales

## agenda

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### LABOUR'S NEW BRITAIN

**MONARCHY**  
In a BBC *Panorama* interview last week, Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, said the Royal Family should be radically reduced in size and "a more Scandinavian" style of monarchy introduced. Tony Blair has already committed the party to reform of the royal prerogative and has been supportive of Mr Straw, who has been criticised.

**REGIONAL ASSEMBLIES**  
Three years ago, Labour promised in *Democracy and Devolution* that "each region would acquire the equivalent of a Scottish or a Welsh Office". In July, Tony Blair said that "the English regions, including Greater London, where they wish to, should have their own elected regional assemblies". They would take on some of Whitehall's functions.

**BILL OF RIGHTS**  
In July, Mr Blair said that incorporation of the European Convention of Human Rights into domestic law "could easily be achieved". He said: "Parliament should pass a Human Rights Act that ... gives the citizens the right to enforce those rules in the courts."

**THE UNION**  
In June, Tony Blair said that a Scottish parliament was "not an optional extra. It is central to my vision for national renewal". It would have "clearly defined economic powers and power to legislate on Scottish domestic affairs". He pledged to introduce legislation within the first year of a Labour government. Earlier this month, George Robertson, the Shadow Scottish Secretary, repeated this promise but said that there was no "pat answer" to the many constitutional questions.

**THE LORDS**  
In July, Mr Blair committed the party to abolish hereditary peerages, arguing that it was "extraordinary that we have major decisions in this country taken by people who have no real connection with the (democratic) political process". Labour would eventually replace the House of Lords with a new second chamber.

**ELECTORAL SYSTEM**  
Labour remains formally opposed to proportional representation but since its 1993 party conference has been committed to a binding referendum on the future of the electoral system.

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The Olivers, Artful Dodgers, Nancys and Fagins are still out there, says charity for homeless

## More women and girls sleeping on the streets

By Lucy Berrington

THE proportion of young women and girls living rough or in hostels has nearly doubled in seven years, according to a study of the homeless by Centrepunkt. Their plight on the streets is little better than it was in the days of Charles Dickens says the charity for the homeless, which marks its 25th anniversary this year.

Nick Hardwick, Centrepunkt's chief executive, said: "The irony is that we are seeing the opening of the musical *Oliver!* If you put *Oliver Twist* in a 20th century context you have one-parent families, a boy from a small Midlands town, an unhappy time in care. He joins a YTS at an undertaker's, runs away to London and gets picked up by more streetwise kids. The *Olivers* and *Artful Dodgers* and *Nancys* and *Fagins* are still out there."

The typical homeless girl is a teenager fleeing sexual abuse or domestic violence or who has been evicted from the family home. Their number includes many from middle class backgrounds. In Britain's biggest study of the homeless, Centrepunkt surveyed 1,500 young people who went to six London hostels for the first time in 1993 and 1994. Eighty-six per cent had been



Leech: used church crypt for homeless

forced to leave home and nearly two thirds had educational qualifications.

"It may be convenient for many to believe in the myth of feckless youngsters wilfully leaving home and coming to London to look for a good time. The truth is that these young people, barely out of childhood, have no homes to return to, no income and very little chance of finding work," Mr Hardwick said. "These people are throwaways."

Forty-two per cent were aged 17 or under, the women generally younger than the men: 43 per cent were female, up from 26 per cent in 1987.

and 44 per cent were black or from other ethnic minorities. Most came from London or the South East. More than four in ten were destitute, with no income, when they approached Centrepunkt. One in three had spent time in local authority care.

Charities say the homeless of the 1990s are increasingly at the mercy of passers-by. A third of young down-and-outs have been approached for prostitution. Stabbings and beatings are common, as is "taxing", when homeless people take money at knifepoint from more vulnerable ones. All are prone to flu, food poisoning and foot disease caused by sleeping and walking in wet shoes.

Project workers say anyone can become homeless no matter what their background. "Very few parents can be absolutely certain that if something happened to them their children would be properly looked after. When politicians visit Centrepunkt the key issue is that they see in the young people their own children and their own children's friends," Mr Hardwick said.

A spokeswoman for Shelter, the national charity for the homeless which has youth projects in Merseyside and Gloucester, said: "The case-workers see people who would never have thought they could suddenly lose their homes. Some people had businesses which failed."

Centrepunkt was founded in 1969 by the Rev Kenneth Leech, then a local curate, who converted a church crypt into a shelter for young people sleeping rough in Soho, central London. "We only consulted two people: the Holy Ghost and the Westminster Council rodent officer," Mr Leech said.

The charity is calling for improved welfare benefits for young people: an increase in affordable rented accommodation and hostel places; and training placements for all 16 and 17-year-olds.



Claire was thrown out by her mother for "leading her stepfather on" when he was caught raping her

## 'Anyone can end up homeless, the problem will never go away'

By Lucy Berrington

CLAIRE never expected to be homeless, nor to be picked up by the two policemen who found her crying in London's Trafalgar Square early one cold morning eight months ago.

A year ago Claire, 16, was leading an outwardly normal middle class life, studying for GCSEs with a view to university, and riding horses. Then one afternoon her mother came home early and found Claire being raped by her stepfather and threw her out. "She just blew her top. She said I used to tease him, lead him on," she said. In fact, she claimed he had raped her regularly since the age of 12.

Claire left with just £20 and the clothes she was wearing. She ended up in London.

where she spent her first night pacing Leicester Square, frightened, before the policemen took her to Centrepunkt. The hostel had no vacancies and for the next few weeks she shuffled between various charity shelters. She left one, in Shepherd's Bush, when it was invaded by

elderly drunks, and settled in an Edgware hostel. New To London, while on the three-month waiting list for a long-term Centrepunkt placement.

She hates to think what would have happened if the policemen had not helped. Her new friends, also homeless, have been attacked, sometimes raped, on the streets. "I used to feel at home I was the only one in this situation. Then you come here and find out there are lots of people."

"Anyone can end up homeless. The problem is never going to go away because there's nobody to stop people becoming homeless. It's only after it's happened that you can sometimes get help."

Lindsay Hattersley, 25, went home one day to find her violent partner in bed with another woman. She left immediately. "Even when I walked out I didn't think I'd end up homeless. You always think there's friends and family to stay with," the former nurse said.

But after a few weeks her options ran out. Her mother could no longer support her and she ended up on the

street. For three nights she slept rough in east London. "There was snow on the ground. I thought I was going to die of hypothermia. It was frightening. I cried a lot. I was so embarrassed because my appearance went really downhill. I didn't want my family to know the way I was living."

Then she found a hostel but was raped by a fellow resident and had to have an abortion. "I sunk into such a deep depression I thought about taking an overdose." She had intensive counselling and a church organisation put her into a shared flat but that did not work out either.

The Big Issue housing team, funded by a magazine sold by the homeless, saved her, finding a new flat, partly paid for by housing and sickness benefit. Now Miss Hattersley is training in office skills and seeking work. After rent she has £40 a week for electricity, food and necessities. She needs winter clothes but cannot afford them and has had to go without heating. But she says: "I wouldn't have survived without *The Big Issue*."

## Victims make a drama out of crisis

By DALYA ALBERGE  
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

PEOPLE from Manchester's cardboard city, some of whom have lived on the streets for six years, are working with a youth theatre company on a play based on the nativity and two homeless people called Joseph and Mary.

Contact Youth Theatre and homeless people aged 17 to 60 have been involved in drama workshops in hostels and day centres in the build-up to a promenade performance through the streets of Manchester. It has been made possible by a £5,000 donation from BT.

Renny O'Shea, youth theatre director, said that acting was an escape for people from the streets. "Homelessness is extremely depressing. With this, they're having a lot of fun. I wanted to work with homeless people as people, people with lives and stories and opinions rather than victims to be pitied. Week by week I've seen real development. They're increasing their confidence."

Much of the casting was done at Salford Cathedral day centre. The actors include Bill Bishop, 55, who used to repair fences but has been unemployed for two years and homeless for a year. He sleeps rough in a bus station until he is moved on.

He said: "Working with Contact is really good, bringing me out of myself. It's given me confidence. I never imagined I'd be homeless. It makes me angry when people say homeless people are there through choice; people with large families and friends never understand what it's like not to have that kind of support."

The promenade performance will be held on December 19-23. Ms O'Shea hopes to entertain the public as well as raising awareness about the homeless. "This is going to be an exciting piece of theatre. I want to make people look twice, and not think, 'poor homeless people producing a piece of theatre'."



The Wretched Poor depicted by Louis-Joseph Watteau de Lille in 1795 are still evident

## South Bank design defended against proposed changes

### Vandalism to drop walkway says Annan

By Marcus Binney

THE author and academic Lord Annan has attacked proposals to alter the Royal National Theatre as vandalism. In a letter to *The Times* today, he says that to demolish the lower terrace, a walkway connecting the theatre to Waterloo Bridge, is "like removing the lower jaw from someone's face".

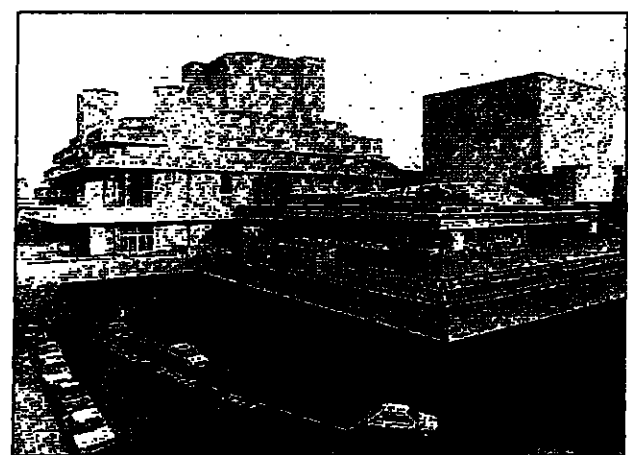
Sir Denis Lasdun, architect of the theatre, said last night: "I am incensed. The building is composed of a series of terraces descending in rhythm towards the river. The lower terrace is emphatically not an afterthought as some have suggested but an integral part of my design."

A theatre spokesman the day said: "On some evenings you can count the number of people who use it on the fingers of one hand. And people who do enter at first-floor level

have to go downstairs anyway." Sir Denis disagrees: "Many theatregoers walk across Waterloo Bridge and would use the upper entrance if there was a sign."

Paul Williams, of the architects Stanton Williams, which has proposed the alterations, said: "The problem of the theatre is where is the front door? The fact that visitors can arrive at two levels has always caused confusion both internally and externally. The walkway structure seriously blocks out light to the foyers and views out to the river. The spaces beneath the walkway are dark and unwelcoming much of the time."

He continued: "Part of the problem is that cars can circulate all round the theatre, isolating it. Our scheme stops this and creates a public theatre square on the river front



The National Theatre, likened by the Prince of Wales to "a nuclear power station in the heart of London"

and a single, clear new entrance at ground-floor level."

The alterations have been submitted to Lambeth Borough Council. Feelings about the proposals are running high after approval last week by English Heritage's London advisory committee. On Wednesday the full board of commissioners of English Heritage will decide whether to accept the plans.

Sir Denis is canvassing a third option for the theatre, which is listed Grade II star, that English Heritage ask the Secretary of State to call a public inquiry.

The upper-level walkways

are one of the most hated features of the South Bank and there has been strong support for their removal. Lord Annan has called a meeting of objectors at the House of Lords this afternoon. Last night he called the walkway an "integral part of the design of a famous modern building with a worldwide reputation. To remove it would be to destroy the whole architectural composition."

Times change. A few years ago the Prince of Wales called the theatre "a nuclear power station in the heart of London."

Letters, page 19

# "I'm going for a large scotch."

You deserve it Ken, that is what Mike Baldwin is served with when he asks for the usual at the Rover's Return.



As irrelevant today as it's always been.

## Mackay targets legal aid for rich

By Frances Gibb  
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Lord Chancellor will announce proposals this week to stop legal aid going to the wealthy. Pressure has mounted to act over what one MP describes as "millions of pounds in legal aid being poured down the drain".

Lord Mackay of Clashfern is to publish a consultation paper aimed at curbing the granting of legal aid to people such as Asil Nadir, former chairman of Polly Peck, and Jawad Hashim, one time aide to Saddam Hussein.

Anthony Steen, Conservative MP for South Hams, has lodged a protest with Lord Mackay over the waste of public funds in a simple case in which an art gallery assistant is suing her former employer, the gallery owners, for non-payment of her salary. The owners, who are also



Steen: "Millions being poured down drain"

legally aided although they had sufficient capital to launch a new company with substantial funds, are resisting her claim for £7,000. The case has already cost an estimated £30,000. The woman, 29, is caught in a "legal aid" trap.

She cannot obtain full-time work because she would not qualify for legal aid. While awaiting the outcome of the case, she is on income support and housing benefit.

The claim, awaiting judgment, has involved several hearings and adjournments. The woman obtained judgment last March after her former employers failed to enter any defence. They then belatedly sought to have the judgment set aside.

Mr Steen says the case is a scandal. He has told Lord Mackay that constituents feel the waste of huge sums of public money is wrong "and see the seeming indifference and lack of reform as the mark of a Government lacking standards and morals itself". The review of legal aid was taking too long, he said. "Action is needed before millions are poured down the drain."

On the criminal side, it was

wrong, Mr Steen said, that defendants facing serious charges should almost automatically be granted legal aid even when they apparently had wealthy assets.

Stephen Byers, Labour MP for Walsend, has obtained figures showing that ten recent big trials cost over £1 million in legal aid each: Barlow Clowes, over £6 million, Britannia Parks £3.3 million, and Brink's-Mat £2.4 million.



هكذا من الأصل



## A black and white photograph showing a man standing inside a large, conical rope net. The net is suspended by four ropes that converge at a single point at the top, where a large pulley or hook is attached. The man is standing in the center of the net, which appears to be made of a heavy, woven rope. The net is open at the bottom, and the man is looking towards the camera. The background is plain and light-colored.

## EXPORT FINANCE

# EU's brave words fail to conceal Bosnia disarray

FROM ROGER BOYES IN ESSEN

THE European Union took double-barrelled aim at American Republicans and Russia at the summit in issuing a firm, though probably ineffectual, statement demanding a politically negotiated rather than military enforced solution to the Bosnian war.

The ten-paragraph declaration drawn up at the summit came at the initiative of Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and was intended to demonstrate Western leadership after the dismal failure of the European security conference in Budapest. But even the Essen declaration had its rocky moments. Herr Kohl made plain to all the European leaders at the outset that since nothing could be done in Bosnia, something had to be written in Essen: and the wording should be as strong as possible.

President Mitterrand was unhappy, even angry. "The French President made a very passionate intervention," Joachim Bitterlich, Herr Kohl's diplomatic adviser, admitted. M. Mitterrand accused those advocating the use of military force in Bosnia of being "intellectually dishonest". The Chancellor, embarrassed by his own inability to supply troops, nodded agreement but seemed uncertain as to whether his "dear friend François" was actually referring to the Germans, who have been advocating strong action by Nato, rather than Robert Dole and his sabre-rattling Republican colleagues.

In the end the political directors put together a document acceptable to the European Foreign Ministers and the heads of government. It firmly identified the Bosnian

Serbs as the main warring party. Diplomats described it as "useful" although it probably seemed less handy to the besieged inhabitants of Bihac. The document makes no reference to military force or threat. It expresses confidence in United Nations commanders — extending support for Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose and his fellow officers.

The special declaration scotched any further public discussions of withdrawal from Bosnia. It also recorded the support of the whole European Union for the peace efforts of the Contact Group, specifically the plan presented on December 2 in Brussels.



That was diplomatically important for the Dutch, the Danes, the Belgians and other states with troops in Bosnia who have felt they were elbowed aside by the Contact Group (Britain, France, Germany, America and Russia). The paper used words such as "outrage" and "intolerable" the blocking of humanitarian aid convoys. Its conclusion was not that Unprofor had failed, but rather that it should be backed more convincingly.

Herr Kohl told one closed group during the summit that Germany would not give a

single pfennig to help reconstruct Serb-controlled areas of Bosnia when the war eventually ends. European Union members clearly differ in their analysis of the war, and in the corridors of the summit it was common to pick up sceptical comments about British and French peace efforts. Since nobody could provide a convincing alternative, the EU has settled for what is essentially the strategy of Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary: pressure for an early ceasefire in Bihac and elsewhere; intense diplomatic pressure on President Milosevic of Serbia in the hope that he will be able to split the Bosnian Serbs, engineer the downfall of Radovan Karadzic, their leader, and open the way for acceptance of a partitioned Bosnia.

The declaration does not, however, mention the possibility of a Serb confederation, only the aim of "equitable and balanced arrangement for the Bosnian Serb and Bosnian Croat entities." That suggests disagreements in Essen between those countries who see Serbia as the sole aggressor (and who thus want to stop any semblance of a Greater Serbia) and those who believe peace can only be achieved with the Serbs' co-operation. Germany is in the first camp; Britain and France are in the second.

□ Bonn: Klaus Kinkel, German Foreign Minister, was last night considering resigning as leader of the liberal Free Democrats, junior partners in the Kohl Government. Herr Kinkel faced a barrage of criticism after the party's losses in nine state elections. (Reuters)



German riot police struggle with an anarchist demonstrator in the centre of Essen. About 150 were arrested

## Leaders unruffled by anti-German rampage

BY GEORGE BROCK AND ROGER BOYES

A THOUSAND skinheads shouting "No to German power", rampaged through the centre of Essen at the weekend, forcing Christmas shoppers to flee. The protest was organised by anarchist groups which claim that Germany is using the European Union to become the "Great Power". About 150 demonstrators were arrested.

But the angriest youths in the city were a group from the Young Federalists of Europe, a pro-Europe organisation that had intended to march through the streets flying the blue flag with 12 yellow stars. Police banned the peaceful Federalists as well as the anarchists.

Federalism was also in retreat inside the summit hall some miles away. In a cosy, pre-Christmas atmosphere John Major was treated to an unusual display of warmth from his fellow leaders, above

all Chancellor Kohl. On Saturday Herr Kohl referred to Mr Major as his "good friend — I make no bones about calling him that", and told a questioner that Mr Major's Euro-sceptic critics would "be swept away by the wind of history, as they deserve". At the end of the summit

### WHAT SUMMIT DECIDED

- To prepare six East European states for membership.
- Job security and welfare benefits to be reduced to cut the queue of 17 million unemployed.
- To gear up the fight against fraud and waste.
- To grant £240m for Northern Ireland inner-city jobs.
- To ask all Governments to make electronic anti-theft devices in cars compulsory.

Mr Major grinned hugely, while teasing journalists with a mock apology that he had no splits or defeats to report.

Euro-happiness for him is a summit where "decisions" are already known. Ministers knew in advance that discussions on jobs and growth contained no risks. Jacques Delors even congratulated Mr Major on the rate of job creation in Britain: only 18 months ago he was denouncing Britain for disloyal "competitive devaluation". The launch of the next phase of negotiations over admitting East European states to the Union went without a hitch.

But what really relaxed the British delegation was the hint from Chancellor Kohl that M. Delors might not after all run for the French presidency next year. British officials savoured the prospect of dealing with Edouard Balladur, the current Gaullist Prime Minister, seen as a flexible man who is adjusting nicely to the French anti-federalist mood.

## Serbs hijack convoys and block visit by Rose to UN troops

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO



Serbs gesture in triumph after capturing the Bihac town of Bosanska Krupa

AFTER lulling the United Nations into believing they were easing their harassment of peacekeepers, Bosnian Serbs hijacked vehicles from two resupply convoys, are holding a third, and turned back the UN commander from an agreed visit to Bihac at the weekend.

The Serbs have also informed the UN that armoured escorts of its convoys would no longer be permitted in their territory. "This method has saved the lives of a number of UN [relief agency] personnel and aid workers over the past two years," Lieutenant-Colonel Jan-Dirk von Merveldt, a UN spokes-

man in Sarajevo, said. The Serb edict would mean the end of the UN escorting humanitarian aid convoys.

"Just when they said they were going to be on their best behaviour, they do this," said one UN official.

Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, the UN commander in Bosnia, spent five hours at a Serb checkpoint in rebel-held Croatia on Saturday in a failed attempt to visit his troops in the Bihac pocket.

"Basically they were making some stupid political point," General Rose said after being turned back. "They are destroying the peace process by acting in

such an arbitrary and stupid manner."

A Dutch convoy which had been held hostage for ten days, was returning to Split empty on Saturday night when two vehicles fitted with sophisticated satellite communications gear, were "confiscated" by Serb soldiers at a checkpoint outside Sarajevo.

Earlier, the convoy, while being held outside Srebrenica, was visited by the local Serb commander in a vehicle taken from peacekeepers last year.

At the weekend Serb troops also hijacked the three lorries from a Danish fuel convoy. "This is outrageous and unacceptable," Colonel von

Merveldt said. "It is highway robbery and plain banditry." A strong protest had been lodged, he said.

A third convoy of French fuel tankers remained blocked at the checkpoint where the Dutch vehicles were taken.

□ Belgrade: Croatia has admitted that its forces are again fighting in Bosnia but claims that they have been invited by the Muslim-led Government. The presence of the troops in southwest Bosnia has aroused fears that the fighting, which spread into Krajina, the Serb-held area of Croatia at the weekend, could provoke another war between Serbs and Croats.

## Aspirants offered aid to ease long wait

FROM ROGER BOYES IN ESSEN

AN end-of-summit photograph squeezing heads of Government and Foreign and Finance Ministers from 21 states in to a single frame gave an indication of how the European Union could look at the beginning of the next century.

Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, invited the six aspirant states of central and eastern Europe to the summit to mark the beginning of "structural dialogue". The German leader warned against false expectations in the east: the post-Communist countries would have to undertake huge tasks to prepare for European entry. Herr Kohl also avoided setting a timetable for accession.

First, he made clear, the European Union had to solve the problem of how to adapt its institution. That suggests negotiations for accession could begin only after 1996-1997, and even then the talks would be with selected states which meet fundamental economic and political criteria. The central Europeans have been hoping for full membership of the Union by the year 2000 — but that now seems unrealistic.

Instead, the Union offered a programme of more open markets, aid and institutional contact. An annual 1.1 billion Ecu has been set aside for the next five years for the "associated" states (Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria). Government leaders will be invited annually to EU summits, while Foreign and Interior Ministers will meet their EU counterparts twice a year. A web of joint interest will thus be spun: east and west Interior Ministers could, for example, co-operate more effectively on cross-border crime or on stemming the westward flow of illegal immigrants.

The European Commission has been instructed to produce a study analysing future relations by the middle of next year. That will have to be a careful balancing job. France, Spain, Greece and Portugal — although overtly in favour of expansion to the east — all have reservations.

The central European leaders expressed broad satisfaction with the current "pre-accession strategy", but would have welcomed more explicit financial promises. The prospect of EU entry is a powerful modernising force in eastern Europe, giving ammunition to reformers.

The summit produced as much as could be expected, but for some years it will add up to little more than some extra cash and a wide-angle-lens photograph for the central European.

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Yeltsin draws political flak as military intervention meets resistance

# Afghan nightmare haunts Russia's Chechen invasion

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

WHEN President Yeltsin ordered three columns of Russian armour into Chechnia yesterday, he took one of the most risky military and political gambles of his three years in power.

The Russian leader, who yesterday was recuperating at a Moscow hospital after an operation on his nose, has turned a localised conflict into a potentially bloody civil war, which many Russians have equated with the costly intervention in Afghanistan.

Mr Yeltsin's problems are two-fold. He must secure a decisive victory over the Chechen forces loyal to President Dudayev, while ensuring that Russian casualties are kept low and civilians are not caught up in the fighting. He must also keep the initiative in Moscow, where a broad political spectrum, ranging from communists and nationalists to democrats, have presented a common front against his policy of armed intervention.

If the Russian forces, which are currently surrounding Grozny, the Chechen capital, are ordered to take the city, the

lightly armed defenders will be little match for the massive force of Russian tanks and armoured personnel carriers supported by air cover and artillery. Nevertheless, like their Tsarist ancestors more than a century ago, the Russian troops are likely to discover that simply holding the capital will not bring them any closer to subduing a well-armed and independent-minded nation of one million.

While General Dudayev, a former Soviet air force officer, had lost popularity with his people since his unilateral declaration of independence from Russia in 1991, Chechens have recently put aside their differences in the face of the Russian attack. It is here that the nightmare of Afghanistan might haunt the Russian troops, who would be extremely vulnerable to guerrilla warfare of the kind that kept the Tsar's army pinned down in the northern Caucasus for more than 50 years. This time, however, there are also reasons to believe that the powerful Chechen clan and mafia network across Russia could

be mobilised to hit government targets from Moscow to Vladivostok.

Mr Yeltsin will also be mindful that his traditional supporters, will use a military setback to attack him politically. On Friday, liberal parliamentarians, who have traditionally supported the Russian leader, warned the President in a telegram that he could no longer rely on them to back him.

"If troops are sent into Chechnia you personally will bear responsibility for the bloodshed," said the deputies from the Duma, the lower House of Parliament. "You would lose the support of millions of Russian citizens who have set as their goal the peaceful democratic development of Russia."

With these warnings in mind, in addition to the private misgivings aired by senior military figures about becoming bogged down in Chechnia, Mr Yeltsin may still look for another way out. According to well-placed political sources in Moscow, the Russian leader would still like to make a deal with General Dudayev and avoid any further bloodshed.

"Yeltsin's position is a bit like Clinton's in Haiti," said one Russian official. "He is now committed to resolving the stand off by force if necessary, but if Dudayev were to cut a deal and leave, like Raoul Cedras [Haiti's former military dictator], he would be delighted."



FOR more than a century the very name Chechnia has provoked more angst, frustration and fear among Kremlin leaders than any other of the Caucasian territories Moscow has tried to subdue.

Although physically a small nation in the North Caucasus, the reputation of Chechnia's inhabitants as fierce fighters and unruly subjects is notorious.

The present conflict goes back to 1991, when the Chechen leader, Dzhokhar Dudayev, declared independence from Russia, correctly gambling that Moscow was not prepared to go to war over a small

and potentially costly piece of territory. But President Yeltsin's resolve stiffened earlier this year, as Chechnia became a centre for smuggling and organised crime and Chechen bandits launched cross-border raids on Russian towns.

The Kremlin financed, armed and encouraged a Chechen opposition force, the so-called "Provisional Council". But, after a failed opposition attack last month, which led to the capture of 21 Russian soldiers, the Kremlin has now calculated that only direct Russian military force will reimpose its authority.

AT LEAST one of the three columns of troops Russia ordered into rebel Chechnia ran into trouble before even reaching the region.

Five Ingush citizens were killed and more than ten wounded in clashes with Russian troops from the column as it passed through neighbouring Ingushetia on the way to Chechnia, Boris Agapov, the Ingush Vice-President, was quoted as saying.

At the desolate highland village of Yandere in Ingushetia, I saw a group of angry villagers surrounding about 20 Russian armoured personnel carriers and talking excitedly to the Russian soldiers coming out of them. Bystanders told me villagers had stopped the vehicles and



A Woman's Defence Brigade member shouts slogans of solidarity against the Russian invasion at a march in Grozny, the Chechen capital, at the weekend

## Rebels' allies confront Moscow troops

FROM GLEB BRYANSKY IN YANDERE, RUSSIA

removed their batteries and fuel.

About 50 other vehicles, part of a bigger convoy, were visible in the distance setting off cross-country across the open stretches of highland towards Grozny. The column included tanks, armoured personnel carriers and mortars, accompanied by helicopters.

Closer at hand, soldiers were taking up positions with missile launchers. The Ingushis are ethnic kin of the Chechens and President Aushev has condemned the Russian advance.

Lawrence Sheets, a Reuters correspondent in the western town of Znamenskoye, 35 miles north of Grozny, saw at least 200 incoming Russian armoured vehicles rumble

along the main street as townspeople watched calmly. Another 200 had already passed through the town, residents said.

Znamenskoye is the headquarters of Chechnia's Moscow-backed opposition, the Provisional Council of Umar Avturkhanov, which is fighting to topple the Government of President Dudayev, which unilaterally declared Chechnia's independence from Russia in 1991. There were no signs of opposition troops on the streets, despite a report by Russia's Interfax news agency quoting opposition officials as saying they were beginning their own advance on the Chechen capital (Sheets writes).

"Russian troops have come here to support the legitimate Government. Dudayev has been arming heavily in the past two days," Islam Magamadov, a spokesman for the Provisional Council, said. "We will soon issue an ultimatum for Dudayev's forces to lay down their arms."

In Grozny, David Ljunggren, another Reuters correspondent, said that up to 2,000 people had gathered in front of the presidential palace, many of them listening to fiery anti-Russian speeches delivered by Chechen elders.

But the reporter said there were few signs of active military preparations beyond several trucks ferrying armed volunteers through the streets. (Reuters)

## Villagers forced to quit homes as army hunts Kurds

FROM ANDREW FINKEL IN TUNCELI

TURKISH authorities in the remote eastern city of Tunceli say heavy snow this year will hit militants of the Kurdistan Workers Party (the PKK), seeking winter refuge in the surrounding mountains. Yet many believe Turkey is becoming hopelessly bogged down as it pursues a campaign to eradicate Kurdish nationalism.

Last week, commentators in many national newspapers noted with despair the verdict of an Ankara state security court which convicted eight Kurdish MPs of complicity with the PKK and sentenced six to long prison terms. TUSIAD, the country's main business confederation, also complained that the sentences, designed to appease domestic frustration with the intractable Kurdish problem, gave little thought to the effect it would have in isolating Turkey from its Western allies.

In Tunceli, popular attention is focused less on the conflict in Ankara than the growing violence closer to home. More than 40,000 Turkish troops are chasing an estimated 1,000 to 3,000 PKK guerrillas in the mountain caves and river canyons of Tunceli province. The government side says the increasing number of "fire fights" is proof that the PKK are having to leave their hiding places and scavenge further afield for food.

At Tunceli police station, a 25-year-old PKK deserter is brought out for display. One of the items he will barter for his liberty is information about where the guerrillas hide their winter stores. A more serious blow to the PKK's logistical network comes from an enforced exodus not just from Tunceli but also from villages throughout the southeast where the militants might be expected to find supplies. Government officials say villagers are leaving to escape the PKK. There

seems little doubt, however, that this is an authorised fiction.

Interviews with villagers fleeing the area reveal the same story. All tell of soldiers entering mountain hamlets and ordering them to leave. Some households that resisted have been set alight. More than 60 villages in Tunceli, one of the smallest of the ten provinces under the long-standing state of emergency, are reported to have been forcibly evacuated. The number of recently deserted villages in the entire southeast is said to total about 1,500. Troops also impose blockades on towns thought to be sympathetic to the PKK. This limits the amount of food that can be taken in and forces the inhabitants out. For the time being this exodus is being absorbed into a network of friends and relations, not just locally but in all corners of the country. The city of Diyarbakir, a four-hour ride away, has grown from 380,000 people (according to the 1990 census) to an estimated 1.25 million.

"This isn't like the West... If a relative comes to stay for a year - so be it," said one man who left his village near Magdiz ten days ago. Some villagers admit that they extended the same hospitality to PKK militants who entered their villages in the winter, searching for food. The irony is that Tunceli is not in itself a natural recruiting ground for the PKK. Many inhabitants, although Kurdish, belong to a liberal Alawi branch of Islam. Yet many believe the government, by its behaviour, is now acting as the PKK's recruiting sergeant. There have also been a spate of bombings and murders of Kurdish activists. "The PKK are the only organisation left representing Kurds, and that's because they carry arms," said Naci Saran, regional correspondent of the *Hurriyet* newspaper.

## Second German state to halt deportations

Bonn: The eastern German state of Thuringia is to suspend deportation of Kurdish illegal immigrants to Turkey. It is the second of the 16 states in the German federation to make such a move, after Lower Saxony.

Richard Dewes, Thuringia's Interior Minister, said in an interview with the weekly *Der Spiegel* that there were concrete reasons to think that "the human rights of Kurds are threatened", throughout Turkey. He said Kurds were "frequently tortured and abused", and "even threatened with the death penalty".

Gerhard Glogowski, Lower Saxony's Interior Minister, has called on Bonn to make a new assessment of human rights in Turkey. In Germany, the states are responsible for deportations, but may not suspend them unilaterally for more than six months. (AFP)

## Nobel winners clash over elections

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR



Arafat at Oslo awards: ballot must wait

WITHIN hours of an emotional ceremony in Oslo marking the award of Nobel peace prizes to Yasser Arafat, Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres, talks between the Israeli and Palestinian leaders broke down, with the Palestinians accusing the Israelis of reneging of the peace process.

Mr Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, failed to make headway in talks lasting until late on Saturday night with Mr Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. The Palestinians accused Israel of blocking agreement on the next stage of the peace process, the holding of elections in the occupied territories. The Israelis insisted that security concerns must be

addressed first, and Mr Rabin said that "shortcuts might lead to catastrophe".

The two sides agreed, however, to intensify talks at a senior level on the redeployment of Israeli troops away from Palestinian population centres. Mr Arafat, in his acceptance speech, insisted on the withdrawal of troops from the West Bank before elections could be staged. These should have been held in July. He said that a denial of the Palestinians' legitimate rights would "keep the ember burning hidden under ashes".

Norway offered at the weekend to co-ordinate a group of 400 international civilian observers to be deployed in the self-rule areas to monitor vio-

lations. Israeli and Palestinian negotiators will meet again in Cairo on Wednesday.

During the ceremony in Oslo, demonstrators from both sides gathered outside the City Hall, condemning Mr Rabin and Mr Arafat as traitors and burning Israeli flags and effigies of the two leaders. In Jerusalem and in Gaza thousands marched in protest.

A security operation protected Mr Rabin, Mr Arafat and Shimon Peres, the Israeli Foreign Minister, who share a prize worth about £650,000. Police escorted the two Israelis on a walk to the Royal Palace, and cordons kept spectators away.

## Breakthrough for Vanunu campaign

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

BRITISH human rights campaigners demanding an amnesty for Mordechai Vanunu, the technician jailed for 18 years for disclosing Israel's nuclear secrets to *The Sunday Times*, claimed a breakthrough yesterday after securing a 30-minute meeting with President Weizman to present a clemency petition.

"It was the opening of a dialogue with the Israeli authorities for the first time since Mr Vanunu was lured from London by an Israeli agent, kidnapped in Rome and dumped in solitary confinement to begin his sentence eight years ago," said Susannah York, the stage and film actress who led the delegation of seven Britons. Ms York said that the

delegates, who were prevented by police from presenting Mr Vanunu with a European peace prize during ugly scenes outside Ashkelon jail on Saturday, had been "surprised and delighted" to be invited to meet the President, a former chief of the Israeli Air Force, whose office had earlier turned down the request.

"It was a very open session. We told him that we believed Mr Vanunu was a prisoner of conscience who should be set free," Ms York said. "The President argued that he was a danger to Israeli security. It was the first time that there has been such an exchange of views and we were able to make clear that Mr Vanunu had received no cash for his story."

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**FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON**

**downfall and would support President Clinton's 1996 bid.**  
**□ Gore mission:** Al Gore, the Vice-President, flies to Moscow tomorrow hoping to patch up a relationship with Russia that had sunk to its lowest ebb in years even before Russia's military intervention in Chechnya yesterday. He will hold talks with Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Russian Prime Minister, with whom he has established a warm rapport.



**FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI**

an nations have strong trade ties with Britain and Europe, and several Latin American countries, led by Argentina, are already discussing increased Atlantic trade.

Another agreement was announced by the United States, Mexico and Canada, to include Chile in the sub-regional North American Free Trade Agreement.

**FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK**

Mr Gigante's lawyers say he suffers from "severe medical problems" and is mentally incompetent to stand trial. Now prosecutors have asked a judge to confine Mr Gigante to jail for 28 days for a psychiatric examination to determine whether he is mad, bad or just a good actor.

Several hours later a caller saying he was from a Muslim fundamentalist group responsible for bombings and kidnappings in the Philippines claimed responsibility, but police said the claim was unconfirmed.

### Tap turned off

**Budapest:** Residents in the small community of Tap near Budapest were so bored with politics they cancelled voting when there were no local candidates in Hungarian municipal polls. (AP) :

[illegible]



# Nurse defies death in the front line of mercy work

FROM ADRIAN BROOKS IN KABUL

FROM the green hills near his home in Dumfries, Scotland, to the brown plains of north-west Afghanistan, Khalil Dale, 42, a Red Cross field nurse, has travelled a long and often dangerous road. It has been a journey on which he has faced death many times and witnessed scenes of horror from Sudan to Somalia.

The slight, wiry figure that climbs out of a battered Red Cross vehicle in the town of Mazār-e Sharif, may not easily fit most people's idea of a man of adventure. His six-month posting with the Red Cross to this war-ravaged country has again found him in the front line of aid work, which involves driving to isolated clinics and dispensaries to distribute urgently needed medical supplies.

He treats the casualties of the civil war that has followed the withdrawal of the Soviet Army in 1989, and which continues to claim thousands



of civilian lives. His actions recently saved the life of Yawaz Ali, 13, whom he found waiting on his doorstep after fleeing from fighting in the capital, in which he had seen his father and his brother killed. "His foot was badly infected after a local doctor had amputated part of it shattered by a bullet, and his

mother could not afford to buy medicines," Mr Dale recalled. "I managed to get the child examined at the antiquated local hospital, and I provided drugs for an operation in which the boy lost his leg but gained his life."

"The conditions at the hospital are sometimes less than basic. It relies on the Red Cross for all medical supplies which, because of the heavy fighting, have to be flown in from Pakistan."

Mr Dale's work also involves obtaining access to prisoners of war. "We check on the conditions they are held in, register them and help them to compile messages to their families," he said. "It can be very rewarding to return a few weeks later and find that their diet has improved."

The dangers of working in a war zone were highlighted on one recent trip to a remote village, when he was held up by two young gun-toting bar-



Khalil Dale in Afghanistan, where he helps to treat children wounded in the war Photograph: Adrian Brooks

dit who threatened his life. "I was saved by a following vehicle, and by some well-timed radio chatter that gave me a chance to escape."

Mr Dale's previous work with the Red Cross has left him well prepared for the rigours of Afghanistan. After studying tropical medicine

and refugee health care in London, he witnessed his first scenes of large-scale death and suffering during the drought in Turkana, in northern Kenya, in 1983. Soon after that he converted to the Muslim faith.

The Sudan famine found him travelling through the wilderness on a camel called Kipling to reach some of the more remote communities. From there he moved to Somalia, where his work earned him an MBE. "The scenes I found Somalia I could never have imagined, and I have seen some pretty bad things before," Mr Dale es-

caped when a bullet grazed his head during an argument among rival Somali groups supposedly hired to protect him. "I found myself on a local warlord's hit list for trying to stop the endemic theft of relief food. After narrowly escaping a kidnapping attempt I realised it was time to leave."

## Swapo set to tighten grip on power

FROM REUTER IN WINDHOEK

PRESIDENT Nujoma of Namibia, whose ruling Swapo party looks assured of a two-thirds majority in parliament after the first post-independence polls, pledged yesterday to consult the nation before changing the constitution.

"No individual will decide whether the constitution needs changing, all Namibians will ultimately decide," the guerrilla leader-turned-President told reporters in the resort town of Swakopmund.

The two-thirds parliamentary majority, if confirmed when final results are announced today, gives Swapo the right unilaterally to amend the constitution that it believes favours opposition parties.

Postal ballots were still being counted yesterday, but political analysts said that with more than 70 per cent of the vote going to Swapo, against 22 per cent for the opposition Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, the ruling party's grip on power had tightened.

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## Charities 'help a third of Britons'

BY JOHN YOUNG

NEARLY a third of Britons have used or benefited from services provided by voluntary organisations such as the British Red Cross, a survey published today shows. More than one-in-ten are at present using these services, and nearly half of those surveyed said that friends or family members had benefited.

The survey was commissioned by Somerfield, the supermarket group, which plans to raise at least £125 million for the British Red Cross on the organisation's 125th anniversary next year.

The survey found that despite widespread reliance on community care services, most people greatly underestimated the role of the Red Cross in delivery them. Of those questioned, fewer than a third understood that voluntary organisations had to raise their own funds; half the respondents said they thought services were funded either by central or local government.

Only 18 per cent of those questioned were aware that the Red Cross also ran a number of key services complementing those provided by the Government.

Services provided by the Red Cross, through a network of local groups and volunteers, range from providing trained and skilled response to disasters and emergencies, to caring for people through community services such as first aid training and the loan of medical equipment.

John Gray, Director of Public Affairs for the British Red Cross, said yesterday: "We are very conscious that, despite the enormous amount of good work our volunteers do, the vast majority of people simply do not understand the range and value of our activities. One of the key aims of our programme for our 125th birthday year in 1995 is to raise awareness of our work and its sheer importance for millions of ordinary people."

## Poll rout threatens reforms in India

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

INDIA'S governing Congress Party has been crushed in elections in former strongholds in the south, further weakening P V Narasimha Rao, the Prime Minister, and threatening to destroy a three-year economic reform programme.

The result will further demoralise a party that was all but wiped out in northern India in the last general election in 1991. After ruling almost continuously since independence 47 years ago, it seems in irreversible decline.

The party was reduced to a tiny minority in Andhra Pradesh, which has 22 million voters, at the hands of the Telugu Desam Party, which promised the poor majority it would increase rice subsidies.

Such benefits defy Delhi's attempts to follow the economic strictures of the International Monetary Fund. With more state elections due early next year and a general election perhaps a year away, the government will be tempted to reverse some reforms to recapture support among the poor. Mr Rao has survived in office since 1991 because there are no obvious successors. But reports that he is seriously ill have added to party disarray.

Congress was wiped out in Karnataka and trounced in Goa and Sikkim. It now has firm control of only four states — Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Haryana and Gujarat, and heads fragile administrations in Kerala, Assam and Punjab.



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ARTS  
THE WEEK  
AHEAD

## VISUAL ART

Brushstrokes from the sub-continent: Indian popular painting from 1800-1930 in Kalighat at the V&A  
OPEN: Now  
REVIEW: Tomorrow



## OPERA

Tuning up at the Tower: Alwyn Mellor has a song to sing-o, as *Yeomen of the Guard* comes to Cardiff  
OPENS: Tuesday  
REVIEW: Thursday



## POP

Oasis, Brit-pop straight from Manchester, at the Hammersmith Palais. The next big thing? Definitely, maybe  
GIG: Tuesday  
REVIEW: Thursday



## MUSIC

Schubert in unfamiliar guise: the matchless Monteverdi Choir presents his choral music on the South Bank  
GIG: Wednesday  
REVIEW: Friday

## Please spare the horses

OPERA: Wagner at La Scala, Milan; two victims of Nazism remembered in London's Regent Hall

It's just about worth the airfare and the price of a ticket to see the first five minutes of the third act of the new production of *Die Walküre* that opened the season at La Scala on St Ambrose Eve last week. The curtain rises on a brilliantly lit field of corn and poppies stretching far back on the huge stage. Through a gauze hung behind it can be seen four life-size white horses — models so beautifully engineered that they might as well be the real thing galloping through the air towards us in slow motion. On each side a warrior maiden waving her sword like billy-o. What they can have cost I hate to think, but such spectacular effects have been part of theatre since it began, and I have no doubt that Wagner would have hugged himself with delight had he been there.

There is light and colour elsewhere in the designs by André Engel and Nick Riet, lying in the face of the recent all-grey tradition even more boldly than Richard Jones and Nigel Lowery at the Garden. Hunding lives on — or just under — a dazzlingly bright Caspar David Friedrich rock formation with a glittering copper tree growing through it. What effect spring could possibly have on this hot summer setting was the only worry; well, dusk fell, and everything went bright red, not best known as the colour of spring, but never mind, anything rather than grey.

The second act was more sombre, played almost entirely on another Friedrich rock, to almost comic effect at the end with Brünnhilde. Wotan, Siegmund, Sieglinde and Hunding hugger-mugger on an acting area about four-foot square trying to keep



Light and colour: Plácido Domingo, Waltraud Meier and Matthias Hölle in André Engel's La Scala production of Wagner's *Die Walküre*

out of each other's way while double-duelling to the death. The only other musicalisation was the lively little ring of magic fire smouldering around the recumbent Valkyrie.

Within this beguiling decor Engel's direction is pretty conventional, right down to the Wagner-swivel fin duet, one person sings at the audience for five minutes, then they swivel so that the other one can have a go.

What was downright unconven-

tional was the conducting of Riccardo Muti. He went for the effect of the moment — a dangerous practice since, as Rossini very nearly said, there are no moments in Wagner. Only quarters of an hour. Muti's general principle seemed to be that if a phrase looked lyrical on the page, then the tempo slowed right down and it was given the full Mahlerian soup treatment: if, superficially, it looked "exciting", then the tempo

was doubled and off he galloped. Since this could — and did — happen on any page of the score, it would be an understatement to call Muti's a restless reading; it was at times almost incoherent, and of the seamless transitions of tradition — a good tradition — there was little sign.

The cast was dominated by Plácido Domingo's heroic, smoothly sung Siegmund. There was little else to

Wagner tradition: Gabriele Schnaut's metallic Brünnhilde was at times defeated by Muti's headlong speeds; the mezzo Waltraud Meier has the notes for Sieglinde, but the vocal centre of gravity is misplaced; Marjana Lipovšek made a strill harp of Fricka; Monte Pederson's Wotan was a very promising early sketch. But oh, those horses!

RODNEY MILNES

## CONCERT REVIEWS

## Variations on a youthful theme

LS/Stenz  
Barbican

THREE world and two London premieres in a single programme: not a bad tally for the second of the London Sinfonietta's concerts under the title "The Stenz Stamp". Barry Millington writes. What made this concert — given by the ever-reliable Sinfonietta under its principal conductor, Markus Stenz — even more remarkable was its air of youthfulness.

Not only were all six composers represented in their twenties, but — thanks to a recent Sinfonietta education project in Surrey schools — a considerable proportion of the audience (a very respectable sized one for such a concert) was even younger. All six composers were present, and three of them briefly introduced their own works.

The highlight for many of the audience would have been Jan Müller-Wieland's *Concerto for Violoncello and 14 Instrumentalists*, in which Evelyn Glennie dispatched the solo part with her familiar dexterity and sensitivity. Müller-Wieland told us that the concerto, made up of five linked "harlequinades", alluded to the world of the circus.

Julian Anderson's *Khorovod* was more obviously celebratory and physical, even if the meaning of the Russian title ("round dance") some-

times seemed stretched. These "dances" moved at different paces and overlapped, creating fascinatingly complex textures. Karen Markham's *Whirligig* equally admirably sustained momentum over an eight-minute span. It is a piece whose intensity has an almost sinister edge, perhaps suggested by Tennyson's "whirligig of time".

At the opposite end of the spectrum of mobility was Keith Johnson's *Honesty*, whose title alludes to the growth cycle of the plant of that name. It is music that demands the same sort of patience as, well, watching a plant grow, but the effort brings its own rewards.

Andrew Daniels's *Duende* supposedly "seeks to evoke images of Lorca's Spain", though it too calls for some subtle listening. Perhaps Thomas Adès's *The Origin of the Harp*, a musical depiction of a painting by Daniel Maclise, requires a greater subtlety of listening than is possible on a single hearing. Certainly the piece made a less arresting impression than is usual in the work of this gifted young composer.

## Special dedication

CBSO/Harding  
Symphony Hall,  
Birmingham

YURI BASHMET's concert with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra had a vulnerable look. Gerald Larner writes. The chances of the survival of Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No 6 in a place the size of Symphony Hall were surely slender, while Tchaikovsky's Serenade for Strings could scarcely be made to expand to the proportions required of an item occupying the whole of the second half of the programme.

Fears for the Brandenburg Concerto proved to be not entirely groundless. The sound was more or less right and, in this remarkable acoustic, both clear and direct. The problem was more a matter of personality, of Bashmet inevitably dominating the ensemble.

The performance of the Serenade for Strings, on the other hand, was uncommonly rewarding. Although now regarded as the property of chamber ensembles, it was written with the resources of a full-scale string orchestra in mind. So the splendid sonorities secured by the 60 CBSO

strings in the introductory ceremonial gestures, though impressive, were not surprising. The revelation was the depth of emotion Bashmet discovered in the slow movement.

Although other soloists have successfully taken up Schnittke's *Viola Concerto*, whenever it is played by its dedicatee it is difficult to believe that anyone else could ever do it so convincingly. The sheer size of the Bashmet sound, the wonderful fluency in phrasing, the extraordinary facility in double-stopping are rare enough. Beyond that, he has a unique insight into the agonies and mortal fears which inspired the work. Most efficiently conducted by Daniel Harding, the performance, above all the haunted second movement and the lingering departure of the finale, was a nerve-racking experience.

## Emma's making sense

## OVERTURES

THE Asian-American Ang Lee is the surprise choice to direct Emma Thompson's screenplay of *Sense and Sensibility*, in which Thompson and Hugh Grant will co-star next year. Kenneth Branagh had been expected to direct his wife's screenwriting debut, but the couple are apparently keeping these days to keep their working lives separate. Lee won fame as the director of the Oscar-nominated *The Wedding Banquet*.

● LAUNCHING the UK Year of Literature and Writing, to be based in Swansea, festival director Sean Doran will not win any prizes himself for linguistic ele-

gance. "The Year goes to the heart of the original Arts 2000 remit in its attempt to radically empower and change a place where art form lay previously undeveloped," he said last week. The "radical empowering" will include a retrospective of Swansea's most famous literary son, Dylan Thomas, and the opening next March of the National Literature Centre for Wales. The list of writers taking part throughout the year ranges from Seamus Heaney to Günter Grass. Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, who is a big Dylan Thomas fan, is to

become the festival's honorary president.

● American actress Blair Brown (*The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd*, *Strapless*) will head the Lincoln Centre production of Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia*, which opens in New York in March at the complex where Stoppard's 1988 *Happgood* is a current sellout. The last time Brown appeared on stage in New York — in the Broadway production of David Hare's *The Secret Rapture* in 1989 — New York Times critic Frank Rich's dismissal of her performance resulted in the famous epistolary contretemps between Hare and Rich.

## Songs in the face of death

White Rose  
Regent Hall, W1

song cycle than an opera (there are powerful resonances of Schubert's *Winterreise*). I was fearful of what an attempted staging would do. But the Continuum Ensemble had commissioned a trenchant new English translation, and Mike Ashman's direction — placing each singer in front of a single white screen left and right of the band, on the small stage of the

Regent Hall — focuses word and music in spare, eloquent body language, without a moment's distraction.

Sixteen "numbers" some of them spoken, some declaimed, some growing from arsis into song and duet, were shared between Hans Geoffrey Dorton and Sophie (Jane Leslie Mackenzie) in extraordinarily committed, searingly communicative performances.

Schoenberg's language is never far away, distilled by Zimmermann to serve his own tautly expressive ends, as memory and reflection knit together in the constant metamorphosis of three six-note themes. Thanks to Philip Headlam's lucid direction of the excellent Continuum Ensemble, the listener heard the plain speaking of the writing's emotional language, not the complexity of its making.

HILARY FINCH

## ENTERTAINMENTS

## ART GALLERIES

SPINK, Chinese Textiles Exhibition, 520 Deodar Road, W15 9LH, Tue 9.30, Sat 10.15, Watercolours of fruit & vegetables by Susanesh Bhandal, Unit 20, Deodar, Mon-Fri, 9.30-5.30, Tues 7.30

## OPERA &amp; BALLET

COLISEUM (01 522 800 200) ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Mon 6.30 RICHARD SHANAHAN, Tues 7.30 RICHARD SHANAHAN, Royal Opera House (01 504 4000) for Box Office & Showday info. Tickets sold on the day. The Royal Opera, London. Fri 7.30 La Traviata, "Glorious and timeless" T. The Royal Ballet, London. Sat 7.30 The Sleeping Beauty, "Stunning" Daily Mail. Sun 7.30 (Last Night) Hebraïm Schindlerman, FEARFUL SYMMETRIES, SYMPHONY IN C, "Compelling dance at the cutting edge" Evening Standard. Thu 7.30, Sat 2.00 & 7.00 (Last Night) ASHTON REMEMBERED

## THEATRES

ADELPHI "ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S MASTERPIECE" Wed 8. Journal. SUNSET BOULEVARD Starting ELIANE PHASE, "Useful 7th Ave. social Thurs. and JOHN BARROWMAN except Mon. Tues. 20th Credit CARD BOOKINGS Call 01 344 0050 (day) NO BOOKING FEE FOR PERSONAL CALLERS AT THE ADELPHI BOX OFFICE. Recorded information 01 344 0050 Mon-Sat 7.45 Mon-Thurs & Sat 3.00 No Performance on 24 Dec. BETTY BRUCKLEY returns on 8 Jan.

ALBERT WC2 10 01 359 1700 Acc 01 344 4444 Gps 413 3221. RICHARD JOHNSON In The Orchestra Festival Theatre production of THE RIVALS by RICHARD BRIDGES-SHERIDAN. Tickets 01 344 4444. SEVEN WEEKS ONLY FROM TOMORROW. Eves 7.30 Mon-Thurs & Sat 3.00

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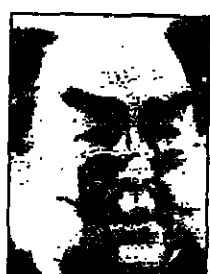
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MUSICALS

**Mack the Knife** is back in London, with a new production of the Brecht/Weill classic at the Donmar Warehouse. OPENS: Wednesday. REVIEW: Friday



THEATRE

Down by the riverside for positively the last time: *The Wind in the Willows* brings seasonal fun to the National. OPENS: Thursday. REVIEW: Monday



BOOKS

The first major biography of Christina Rossetti coincides with a major National Portrait Gallery exhibition. IN THE SHOPS: Now. REVIEW: Thursday



FILMS

With a little help from his puppet friends, Macaulay Culkin brings fantasy to life in *The Pagemaster*. OPENS: Friday. REVIEW: Thursday

ARTS  
TUESDAY TO  
FRIDAY  
IN SECTION 2

Does the British musical have a future post Lloyd Webber? Matt Wolf investigates

# Time to send in the clones

Amid the discussion about new plays — who writes them? — the one about new musicals rarely surfaces. The fact that this year's Evening Standard Drama Awards gave no prize for Best Musical raised hardly an eyebrow. Imagine the fuss if the Best Play accolade was not awarded.

In part, this phenomenon reflects a traditional British unease with an art form still considered the province of Broadway, no matter how internationally pervasive Cameron Mackintosh and Andrew Lloyd Webber have become. One need only point to the presence of Broadway imports *She Loves Me* and *Once on This Island* as virtually the sole West End musicals of the year until the arrival of *Oliver!*. Next year's limited musical line-up will be dominated by the West End transfers of the Broadway shows, *The Who's Tommy* and *Passion*. Look up "musical" in the *Cambridge Guide to World Theatre* and one is requested to turn to "American musical theatre".

Beyond Mackintosh and Lloyd Webber, what Britain is even part of a musical industry? Tim Rice, I suppose, and for a brief time Howard Goodall, whose *The Hired Man* won an Olivier award a decade ago. But the truth is that whereas America has musical hopefuls with some degree of commercial viability — William Finn (*Falsettos*), Alan Menken (*Beauty and the Beast*) and Michael John LaChiusa (*Hello Again*), among others — Britain's next generation has yet to demonstrate the commercial stamina to suggest there may be native life in the West End once Lloyd Webber shifts his attentions to the cinema, as he is keen to do.

Not that the composer himself is too cheery on this topic. During a New York visit this autumn, Lloyd Webber told a Metropolitan Museum of Art audience that doubts about the next generation of musical writers had made for "a very worrying time [that] affects my view of writing musicals".

Where can the musical theatre turn? The opening in London this week of *The Mercury Workshop Musical Revue* offers one possibility, even though its two-week run reflects the same limitations as its aspirants. Because London, unlike New York's off-Broadway, offers nothing between a full West End run and a limited engagement on the fringe, there is less chance of a show by young hopefuls having a long run. In London you are either in the West End spotlight or briefly on the fringe, which may be part of the reason that for every *Sunset* there is a *Moby Dick* for every *Miss Saigon*, a *Eurovision*.

"It is partly a venue problem," Mackintosh told me last week. "I always thought with *Moby Dick* that we would have run if we had found a London version of *The Old Fire Station*" — the 11-seat Oxford venue where the musical was tried out prior to its 1992 West End debut. "Even at its worst, it never took under £45,000 a week [at the Piccadilly], which isn't bad for a new show."

But how good is the young talent anyway? "There's certainly a next generation of writers — at least half a dozen people out there who are talented," Mackintosh says. "Whether they are commercially viable is another matter. Just being technically good at writing a song does not a great musical make." Mackintosh believes that only a finite amount of commercial musical product exists at any one time, and the history of the British musical bears him out. And at present such product has a Gallic element, with the emergence of Frenchmen Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg as a hit machine whose third show, *Martin Guerre*, is being prepared by Mackintosh for a spring 1996 West End premiere.

Edward Hardy, the 28-year-old founder of the Mercury Workshop and himself a composer and lyricist, argues that commercial success must be defined. "When the ads say 'now and forever' about *Cats*, they mean it," points out Hardy, who, like many Mercury participants, is an alumnus of Stephen Sondheim's Oxford masterclass four years ago. "The emphasis is on the



Rising talent: Janie Dee and Clive Carter at the Mercury Workshop Musical Revue

eternal — not on something that's going to recoup, but on a show that will run forever."

The odds against such longevity, of course, are high — and that deters young talent. "In order to write, you honestly have to believe your work is going to be performed, and most writers in my circle don't believe their work will be."

Even West End musical careers can be made almost exclusively from the Broadway repertoire, as Julia McKenzie, director of the Mercury's current *Revue*, herself bears out. "I was lucky to come in on the end of the Broadway stuff that was here," she says. Also, she points out, "London is a small town, so you get new writers having to prove themselves in the first preview, which isn't fair."

Does the picture seem too bleak? The very existence of Mercury gives hope, as does the attention afforded a current musical like *Stairway to Heaven* at the King's Head, co-written by Vivian Ellis prize-winners Tom Morgan and Kevin Metcalf.

"Writing a musical is hard: very few people know how to do it," says Hardy, who hopes the Mercury Workshop will provide the necessary platform. "The point is that writers can come here to produce new work, whether of a commercial hue or not. The aim isn't 'This will run for ten years'; it's 'This is a good piece of the musical theatre'. And it's good for audiences because they get to see a different breed of musical."

• The Mercury Musical Revue opens tonight at the Jermyn Street Theatre (071-287 2875)

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THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

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The mystery and potential danger of red mercury □ Promising advances in power from nuclear fusion □ Rats and the dilemma of jet lag



**IS RED mercury** a scam, or a threat to world peace? Most nuclear experts believe that the exotic material, traded by shadowy figures on both sides of the old Iron Curtain, is a hoax perpetrated by the unscrupulous on the easily duped. One who doesn't is Frank Barnaby, a nuclear scientist turned peace researcher who thinks there is more in red mercury than simply a way of separating fools from their money. In the current issue of *Medicine and War*, he provides a coherent account, based on conversations with a Russian nuclear chemist, of what red mercury may be. Ever since the fall of the Soviet Union, an underground trade in red mercury has been going on. The US Department of Energy calls it "a bogus material", a view shared by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

## This could be explosive

ways in which it might be used in nuclear fission weapons, or even as a trigger for a revolutionary new type of H-bomb that would be smaller and lighter than anything now known in the West.

According to his account, red mercury is made by dissolving mercury and a red powder — in mercury, and then irradiating it in a reactor for 20 days. Then the excess mercury is evaporated, leaving a cherry-red polymer in the form of a gel — the so-called RM 20/20. For use in nuclear fission



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

bombs, actinides such as californium-252 are added to the gel, which is then incorporated into the chemical explosive that surrounds the plutonium core of the bomb. On ignition, the red mercury is said to perform various functions. Its high density ensures that the plutonium is efficiently compressed, necessary to create a critical mass, while the californium is a source of neutrons which initiate the fission reaction early. It may also act as a good neutron reflector, ensuring that there are enough neutrons to trigger fission efficiently.

If Dr Barnaby is right, red mercury used in this way would accelerate fission and produce a larger flux of neutrons for a given yield. Such a weapon would, in fact, be a neutron bomb, designed to optimise the killing of people while reducing damage to property. When the Americans designed such a bomb using other methods, they were attacked by Soviet spokesmen for having produced the ultimate "capitalist" weapon.

Used in this way, red mercury would not really make access to nuclear weapons any easier. More sinister is the possibility that red mercury itself is such an efficient explosive that it could be used to trigger a pure fusion bomb: the basis, Dr Barnaby speculates, of the odd claim made by a Russian general in 1993 that his nation had developed a low-yield nuclear weapon a hundred times lighter than any existing device.

Such a pure fusion weapon would be a serious threat to peace: cheap to produce, and outside the existing safeguards procedures. In the circumstances, let's hope that Dr Barnaby is wrong and the US Energy Department right.

## Need to react



EVER since most of us can remember, the proponents of controlled nuclear fusion have been promising us cheap, safe power, while governments threw money at them.

But now that palpable advances are being made, the politicians — at least in America — are losing interest. Last month the experimental fusion reactor at Princeton set a new record, producing a brief burst of 10.7 megawatts, enough to power 3,000 homes, although only for the blink of an eye. JET, the European fusion reactor at Culham in Oxfordshire, has achieved similar successes.

Even more encouraging, the Princeton results have shown that controlling the hot plasma of deuterium and tritium — the fuel of a fusion reactor — is easier than expected. Until recently, experiments have been based on proving that it is possible to heat deuterium to enormous temperatures and contain it in magnetic fields for

long enough for fusion to occur. Not only is the real fuel mixture easier to trap, but the levels of radioactivity leaking from the reactor have been ten times lower than expected.

Eventually an international reactor involving Europe, America, Japan and Russia is planned, which could at last prove fusion power feasible — unless, that is, the new Republican majority in Congress halves the US fusion budget, as it has threatened to do.

## Clocking on



THERE ARE hundreds of remedies for jet lag, but none of them works. Nothing but time and sleep really cures the feeling that while you may be back home, your brain is still somewhere else.

Every day, important decisions are taken by businessmen and politicians in this scrambled state. Some travel so much that they are unlikely ever to be working at top efficiency.

A pill that could reset the biological clock would find a ready market. Jian Ding and colleagues from the University of Illinois haven't found one yet, but they have shown, in the current issue of *Science*, that the circadian rhythms of rats can be modified chemically.

The part of the brain responsible for setting the biological clock lies in the hypothalamus, and is synchronised by the daily cycle of darkness and light. The brain-chemical responsible is believed to be glutamate, released after the optic nerve is stimulated by light.

Dr Ding and his team have shown that slices of rat brain exposed to glutamate in the laboratory do respond by altering their rhythm. When applied in the night, the glutamate shifted the clock, but had no such effect when applied during the day. The results show that glutamate is the primary messenger which carries the signals from the retina to the correct area of the hypothalamus.

One day, experiments like these may provide a quick fix for jet lag, but not yet. Attempts to reset the clock in living rats by injecting glutamate have so far failed.

Now suppose that all values of  $b_{i(1)}U_2(A)U_2(b_{i(2)})U_2(A)U_2(b_{i(3)})U_2(A)\dots U_2(A)U_2(A)$  are sandwiches, but that some values are non-zero. Then we define a near lie po

## Why doesn't maths have mass appeal?

Mathematicians should trumpet their successes, says Marcus du Sautoy, reporting on a recent breakthrough

On the night of May 29, 1832, Evariste Galois sat down at his desk and founded modern group theory. The next morning he fought in a duel for the woman he loved. No one had told him she was a prostitute hired by anti-revolutionaries to lure him into combat against the top marksman in Paris. He died aged twenty. As mathematicians go, Evariste Galois went more spectacularly than most. Perhaps if more mathematicians had died in duels over fallen women, they'd get — if not a better press — at least a more interesting one.

Each year the Nobel prize for physics or chemistry is headline news. But can you name the Nobel Laureate for mathematics? Stumped? Hardly surprising — there isn't one. Nobel preferred explosions to calculations. But

there is an equivalent prize that mathematicians regard as their Nobel prize, the Fields Medal, as it has become known.

This summer at the International Congress of Mathematicians in Zurich, four mathematicians were added to the list of the mere 34 who have been honoured since 1934: three analysts, Jean Bourgain from Belgium, Jean-Christophe Yoccoz and Pierre-Louis Lions from France, and Efim Zelmanov, a Russian who works in algebra.

So why has no one reported until now on these illustrious award-winners? And what are their remarkable achievements? The answer to the first question lies in trying to answer the second. It is more deep-rooted than just a failure to report on the Fields Medals. Why does *Horizon* rarely touch on mathematics? True,

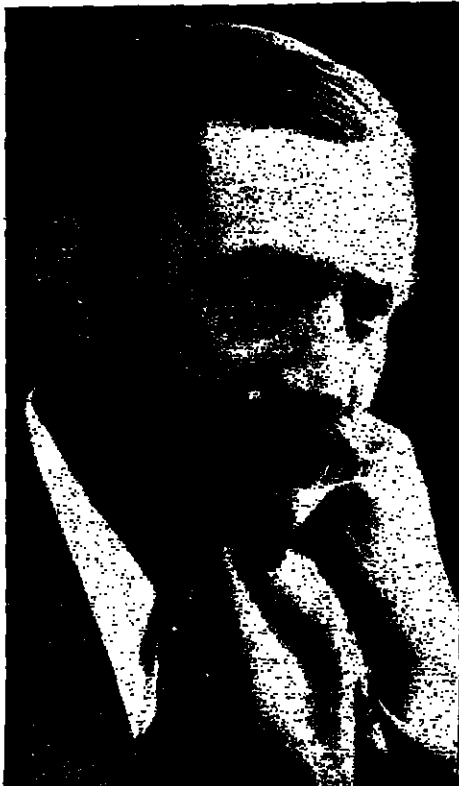
*New Scientist* and *Scientific American* often run a recreational mathematical spot. But what makes them tight shy of giving space to serious advances in mathematics?

Mathematics is as fundamental to the way things are as any science. And science would be nowhere without it. The gravitational pull each planet exerts on another might cause a planet to be ejected from the solar system or to fall into the sun. It is mathematics like Yoccoz who will say: "Told you so."

Chaos theory did make it onto the popular scene some years ago — albeit largely due to acid culture's adoption of the Mandelbrot set (those funny computer-generated paisley designs) and its star billing in the likes of Stoppard's *Arcadia* or Boyd's *Brazzaville Beach*. The pretty pictures of chaos theory may not be such



Galois, left, founder of group theory, and Burnside, one of the theory's pioneers



a bad clue as to why the media and mathematics do not mix. The lack of good visual material makes it difficult to bring mathematics into the living room. If you can talk about molecules, DNA or black holes the reader can picture something. But one of the strengths of mathematics, scientifically if not for the PR reasons, is its abstract nature.

The importance of abstraction is nowhere more evident than in Galois's group theory, the area in which Efim Zelmanov won his medal. Group theory is an abstract language developed to talk about symmetry, one of the most fundamental concepts of nature. The majority of people's access to science is through pictures, but in mathematics pictures can often be very deceptive. The ability to articulate these pictures in language allows us to uncover deep insights about the symmetry of a situation.

For example, if we want to know what possible crystal



Zelmanov: prizewinner

structures can exist in nature, the answer lies in describing the groups of symmetries of the crystals — the so-called "space" groups. There are 230 such groups. Only mathematicians could give such a conclusive answer. Another crucial application of group theory is in quantum physics. It is the group of symmetries of the fundamental particles that can best explain their behaviour, even to the extent of predicting new particles.

From the depths of Siberia, Zelmanov was motivated by one of the group theory's holy grails: the Restricted Burnside Problem (see panel, right). This simple question posed 90 years ago has inspired many mathematicians but it took the sophisticated tools developed by Zelmanov to crack it finally.

Zelmanov's work embodies one of the strange paradoxes of mathematics. To say that Zelmanov was motivated by any application to the "real" world would be untrue. In the mathematicians' world, it is the groups themselves which assume an importance of all of their own.

Whether or not Burnside's Problem has applications in the other sciences, for mathematicians its solution alone deserves their highest accolade. But, as so often happens in mathematics, the tools involved in Zelmanov's proof go beyond the original question. It appears now that they have applications even in certain equations which play a part in

## BURNSIDE AND HIS PROBLEM

A GROUP is an abstract way to encapsulate the symmetry of an object. For example, take a 50p piece. How can I describe its symmetry? One way is to draw an outline around the coin and then to look at the ways that I can turn the coin so that it fits back into its outline.

For the 50p coin there are 14 such "operations": rotating the coin through one seventh, two sevenths, etc. of a turn as well as flipping the coin. The "group of symmetries" of the 50p coin consists of all these operations. Every object, such as a crystal or a subatomic particle, has its associated group of symmetries. Knowledge of the group tells us something about the possible symmetries of our object which often govern its behaviour.

The "order" of an operation is the number of times

needed to repeat the operation before the object returns to its original position. So in the case of a rotation of the 50p coin the order of the operation is seven.

In 1902 William Burnside asked: "If all the operations in the group have small order, does that imply that there are a small number of operations in the group?" In the 1960s some monstrous groups were discovered with infinitely many operations, all of small order. Zelmanov proved that if it is not one of these infinite monsters, then the group must be small (two lines of his proof are printed above). For a mathematician such a result is very significant. It reveals a gap in the sort of symmetries that can exist in nature. A group of bounded order is very big (infinite) or is small.

string-theory physics. This mix between mathematics as an independent art or as an applicable science is inherent in so much of the subject.

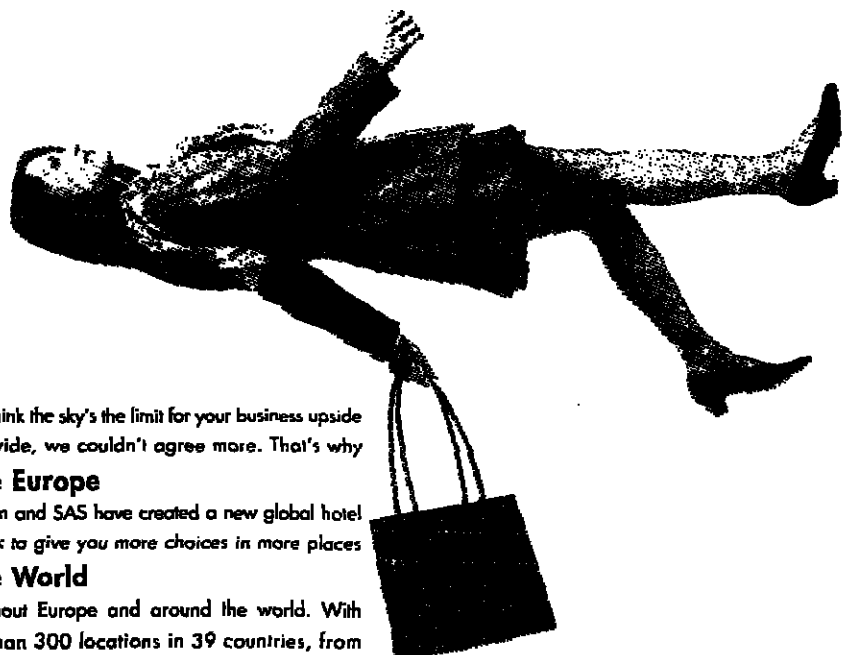
At the presentation of the Fields Medals in Zurich, a Swiss federal minister whose portfolio includes science had prepared her speech by sending questions to a dozen of the world's leading mathematicians including the following: "In contrast to a harpist who delights others by her music, I fear the pure mathematician

cannot make his art accessible to a wider public. How can pure mathematics justify its art to the state which finances it?"

The wealth of contributions mathematics makes to science and technology already justify its funding. But still there is a public out there who would like to hear us playing our best tunes. Let us not be afraid to blow our own trumpet.

● Dr Marcus du Sautoy is a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

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## Cyberspeak decoded

Be honest. Do you understand it? Or have you hit the crash-barriers on your way to the information superhighway? The most talked about revolution in communication — the Internet — is for many still alien territory riddled with opaque jargon. Well, hook up to this and come surfing through cyberspace.

Anyone with a computer, a modem, a telephone and a modest subscription, can plug into the worldwide network of computers called the Internet. Millions around the globe are already "hooked up", some to do business, some to use databases, and some to just talk or gossip.

Users can wander around the Internet, clicking on and flicking through the maze of information to see what's going on. This sort of technological window shopping is called "surfing".

What about cyberspace? Think about how you interact with people in a pub. You see them in three dimensional space. This real space doesn't exist in the world of Internet. On the Net (the informal name for the Internet), when you move between information, datafiles and personal messages, you are moving in cyberspace. The problem is that, because cyberspace cannot be seen, touched, smelt, heard or tasted, you can't quite put your finger on it, although you guess it must exist. No wonder cyberspace has acquired a mystical aura.

Other liberal cyber spin-offs suddenly become clearer. Cyberpunks can be thought of as computer anarchists, surfing wherever they like but not generally in a destructive sense. They rebel against any form of control or exploitation

**Anjana Ahuja**  
offers a guide  
from the side  
streets into  
the information  
superhighway

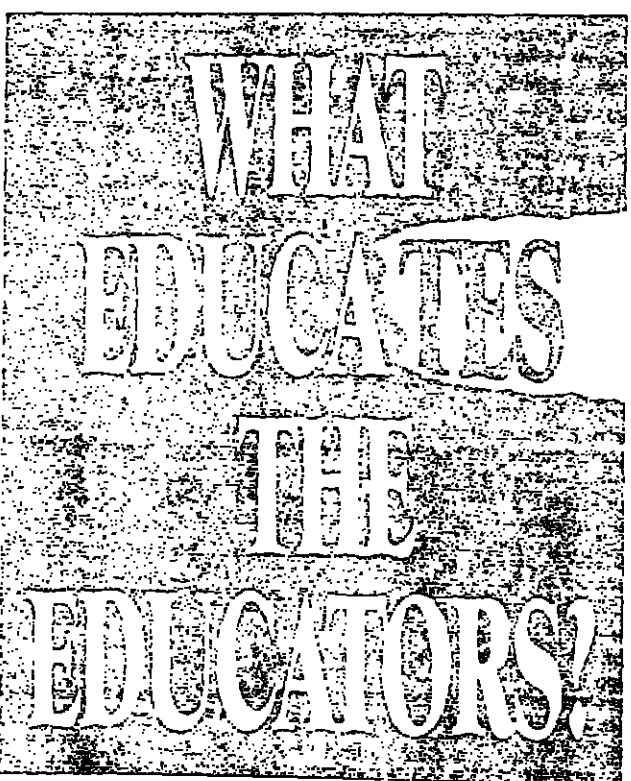
of the Net. Another term is cyberfeminist, which, according to a recent newspaper article, can mean nothing more than a woman using the Internet. Hackers are trespassers in cyberspace, breaking and entering datafiles. The thrill of the exercise usually lies in accomplishing a break-in, though recently BT unwittingly made it easy for a hacker by giving him a temporary job — and a password allowing him access to classified phone numbers (including those of the Royal Family). By pressing a few buttons he was able to transfer the numbers onto the Internet. In America hackers can command lucrative salaries from big corporations desperate to protect valuable datafiles from intrusion.

Now that is out of the way, we can move on to the sensitive subject of Netiquette. This is the voluntary code of ethics adopted by Neties, people who use the Net. The biggest social quandary to have hit Netiquette is the question of advertising on the Net. Many users claim they use the Net to escape advertising, and any

people or companies who dare to indulge in "spamming" (by sending advertising messages to thousands of Internet forums) risk having their computer addresses flooded with electronic junk mail.

This method of revenge is known as "flaming" and is bound to increase as companies try to tap the potential of this parallel electronic world.

So can you bring yourself to get back onto the information superhighway (a silly term that just means information can flow faster once we are all connected electronically)? If so, get hooked and start surfing.



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YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO IGNORE IT.



On a wave of nostalgia, we should raise a glass to lighthouse keepers

## No one behind the flashing light this Christmas

Another British Christmas ritual will be missing this year. Unless some sort of token outing is organised it will be the first time in years that a group of hardy yachtsmen has not sailed out on Boxing Day to deliver a dinner to the Needles lighthouse.

The last two keepers, Mr Robson and Mr Surplice, ended their last shift in the gales before the weekend. The light is now automatic, like every other rock lighthouse off the British mainland (Les Hanois, off Guernsey, follows next year). This is it: the end of an era of care and heroism. The rock lighthousemen are extinct, so long live their memory.

To help it live, here are some stories. I have collected them for years, since there is nothing more soothing to a nervous sailor than a dossier of sturdy men, dedicated to keeping ships safe. There is also something profoundly noble about the whole business of lights at sea. They are altruism and internationalism made visible, the very spirit of human co-operation. In 1697, when the Eddystone light was being built, a French privateer kidnapped the builder, Winstanley. When Louis XIV heard of the incident, he ordered him instantly released, with the words "France is at war with England, not with humanity".

The Eddystone provides one strange and terrible story: in 1750 the wooden tower caught fire, and the keeper Henry Hall, aged 94, threw water upwards to put the fire out. The lead roof melted and some ran down his throat. He lived for 12 days, and at the post-mortem a 7lb lump of lead was found in his stomach.

You want a happy ending? Sail West to the Longships, a terrifyingly surging, crashing site off Land's End: early Victorian stories allege that men's hair turns white there in winter, and "more than one untrained keeper has been driven insane from the sheer terror of the waves". One dark night the Keeper of the Longships was kidnapped by Cornish wreckers hoping for plunder. The light would have gone out, only his tiny daughter, knowing that it must be kept burning at all costs, tended it nightly. She was so small, the story goes, that she had to stand on the family Bible, on tiptoe.

But you know about lighthouse keepers' daughters,

because you know about Grace Darling. The popular press and the balladeers made much of her heroic row through the storm to rescue survivors from the *Forfarshire* in 1838. Especially distressing to Grace, all her life, was the fact that the ballads made out that she, the first Girl Heroine, had to persuade her coward father to go.

The truth is that William Darling had rescued people before: every lighthouseman did. Grace was a quiet, decent spinster daughter who, in an extreme hour, merely did as she was asked and suffered for the rest of her short life from the sentimental hype of the Victorian media. The ballads even pretend she saved a whole crew; in fact, more than 40 died on that wet rock, and when the rowing-boat landed the first grim sight Grace saw was a woman cradling her two dead children.

Where next? The Smalls, way off South Wales, where the isolation of the keepers in days before helicopters and radios gave rise to the grisliest tale of all. One died, and his mate, fearing a murder charge, had to keep the body. He lashed it in a box on the lantern-rail, and kept it there for three weeks. After that, three men at a time went out to the remoter lights.

Even this was no guarantee of safety. On the Flannan Islands, on December 15, 1900, three keepers disappeared utterly, inspiring the W.W. Gibson poem recited by generations of children at Christmas—remember?

... Three men alive on Flannan Isle  
Who thought on three men dead.

More moving, though, is the telegram sent by the master of the ship *Hesperus*, which discovered the disaster. It ends: "Poor fellows they must have been blown over the cliffs or drowned trying to secure a crane... I have left Moore, MacDonald, Buymaster and two seamen on the island to keep the light burning". For down the years, that was what mattered to the keepers, beyond their own safety or even lives. They kept the lights burning. They have gone now, but only because electronics have made them redundant. While we needed them, they were always there. Drink to them this Christmas.



LIBBY PURVES



Newton Aycliffe leisure centre, where the local MP is the centre of attention as he opens a youth initiative: "Lovely wife, nice kids... he's an ambassador for the North East."

## The local lad goes home to his people

To Southerners, Tony Blair may be Islington man personified, but to his northeastern constituents he is a local hero. Anne McElvoy reports

Spennymoor is in mourning. The higgledy-piggledy town, a few miles down the road from Durham city is about to lose its local MP to the latest boundary change. Tony Blair will gain Newton Aycliffe and sacrifice Spennymoor — "a place for which I have always had a particular affection", he tells local worthies before we battle our way to the car park through what would be called a gale down South but counts as a little more than a "bit nippy" up here.

Today, it seems that half of the population is in Kwik-Save, hamstering away some pre-Christmas shopping, and the other half is in the leisure centre watching Mr Blair open a youth initiative. His trips to his constituency have become less frequent since he took over the Labour leadership: he enjoys the status here of a clever son who has gone to university but still has the decency to return home now and then. He is inevitably introduced first as "our MP" and only then as "leader of the Labour Party". The people who approach him want to talk about threatened closures of a local special-needs school, not Clause 4.

For the North East, a region obsessed with bettering itself, Mr Blair is not only a local hero, but a ticket to respectability. "He's a smart, good-looking lad and that's what we need," says Sandra Foster, a secretary. "The cloth cap is gone and the pit-heaps too, but

they still think we're the east of *When the Boat Comes In* down there in London. Maybe if he's Prime Minister that will change."

Mr Blair became MP here in 1983, after a dry run in a Beaconsfield by-election. He tried out some of his early modernising on Trimdon Colliery, a steel wind cuts across the moor and a few head-scarves trudge up the main street. "Can'ty lad," says Moira Hadden, buying her Christmas half-bottle of brandy in the local store: "a really genuine man." The other shoppers hasten to agree. "He's an ambassador for the North East," says another.

We arrive in Trimdon Colliery, which Mr Blair introduces with an admirably straight face as "God's own country". A steel wind cuts across the moor and a few head-scarves trudge up the main street. "Can'ty lad," says Moira Hadden, buying her Christmas half-bottle of brandy in the local store: "a really genuine man." The other shoppers hasten to agree. "He's an ambassador for the North East," says another.

Myrobella House is a ram-

bling place, built, like many pit-village dwellings hereabouts, back to front, so that you enter through the yard and look out onto the fields from the front room. In the kitchen, a kettle bubbles on the Aga. The furniture is battered but cosy. Cherie and the children will arrive for Christmas. "Guaranteed peace and quiet," says Mr Blair, happily.

On to the Newton Aycliffe Mayor's Ball, the annual outing for local civic dignitaries.

Burly councillors are trussed into black tie; their wives shyly sport unaccustomed décolleté. Bottles of wine on the table are left half-drunk in favour of pints. After the roast-beef dinner, the mayor gives a thorough speech, thanking not only his wife Christine for her support during the last year, but also his mother and Christine's mother.

Blair, sitting with arms folded squeezes his own biceps hard, presumably to keep himself awake after a 15-hour day. Finally, he threads his way through the flapping fans hunting photographs and telling him he's bound to win the next election. One old man looks him hard in the eyes. "Sixteen years, lad. It's been a long time," he says quietly. "Don't let us down, will you?" The smile on Tony Blair's face is momentarily replaced by something like fear. But the shuddering intimation of failure soon passes and he strides out, hastening back to Trimdon for a last pint among the hopeful.

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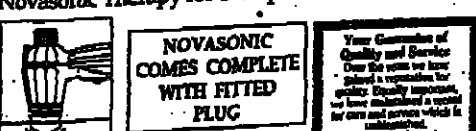
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'He's a smart, good-looking lad and that's what we need'

that I belong here." Brought up in Shincliffe, Durham, he attended the chorister's school where, he admits, he was "not a desperately good" singer: "I was there for the education, really."

Now, he lambasts the question as "the sort of thing a journalist asks, never a voter and changes gear crossly. "The idea that Labour is moving away from its roots is Guardianesque nonsense. My education, background and approach to politics have never been a problem with voters. Only with middle-class journalists in London."

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## Matthew Parris



■ Many people suppose that our civilisation is in decline, but the evidence points the other way

I quote from memory:  
As white  
As the wing of an egret  
Over Mount Fuji  
But with a hole in the middle.

Colin Dale (b. 1948)  
I should have got it straight away, of course. It was staring me in the face as I sat on my Circle Line train on the London Underground, reading the advertising posters above the seats opposite.

Among the ordinary adverts there has been for some years a wonderful series of "Poems on the Underground". They have included some old but loved lines — Shakespeare, Blake, but also some challenging modern poetry. The poems are beautifully printed, with distinctive typeface, plenty of white space, and a cool and stylish presentation.

This poem adopted the same classic layout and typeface. A more "difficult" poem of the modern school, perhaps (the bit about the hole was puzzling) but re-reading it I fancied I began to see its beauty: spare, minimalist, very Japanese. The image of a white bird's wing over Mount Fuji was lovely. The publisher's imprint was at the bottom. Yes, just as I thought: "Poems on the Tube".

Hmm. But isn't it "Poems on the Underground"? and — wait a minute — "Colin Dale" Colindale is a stop on the Northern Line.

Then the penny dropped. In the other corner of the poster, almost too small to notice, was a tiny picture of a tube of Polo mints.

I laughed out loud — I've since seen other passengers doing the same — and let my eye pass to the next advertisement. It was a clever and thought-provoking message from the Portman Group, aiming to make us think again about drinking and driving. The text started conventionally "You know it's dangerous..." but anticipated the impatience with which such familiar homilies are read and concluded: "Don't drink and drive, or... Oh — forget it!" It made me think.

I moved to the next ad. It was for Books Etc. and listed a range of new titles, from the popular to those of more minority interest. Looking around the carriage I noticed that almost everyone was reading.

Next to the bookseller's advertisement was one for a brand of lager, Grolsch. This was part of a series, entitled "Subliminal Advertising", which requires intelligent study before you get the point. One of these never mentions the name of the beer, which can only be gleaned by taking the first letters of each line of a paragraph which makes perfect sense in itself. But this poster proposed an Eastern mantra to be recited by those thirsty for a

Has there ever been a time when ordinary British people were so educated and literate?

on his experiences as a student teacher in an inner city school. I believe that today's education and media place before more young people than ever before at least the possibility of intelligent progress, and that more than ever before are realising it.

Has there ever been a longer period of almost complete tranquillity in the realm than the past half century? Petty crime is up on the 1980s (but probably not the 1950s), but I suspect that serious and violent crime, though it rises and falls in waves, has been dropping steadily in an underlying way for centuries. I find Simon Jenkins convincing on the reality behind the crime statistics.

Is there not a growing divergence between our image of ourselves, and the reality? A widening gap between the picture of abyss, disorder and ignorance towards which we imagine ourselves to be hurtling, and the rather thoughtful and well-ordered country which we increasingly are?

An English friend telephoned me from Moscow. He encountered two dead bodies last week: in the second case he was unable even to interest the police. "I had forgotten," he said, "what a civil, safe, friendly, decent, orderly little country England is."

Despite good economic figures, people are afraid for the future, and the next recession may be imminent

# A dismal Christmas and a worse new year

This is looking like a rather miserable Christmas for Britain. Not since the years after the war, or in years of acute recession, can I remember such widespread depression, the same general feeling of fear for the future. So far as I can tell, this gloom that extends to all classes, all age groups and all parts of the country. Looking through the centre of London one might feel oneself to be behind the old iron curtain, watching the drawn faces, the grey complexions, the cheap clothes.

One can see the same symptoms in the Midlands or even in the more relaxed South West. A walk down the High Street of Bruton in Somerset leaves an impression of a scattering of people not going in to buy the inexpensive stock in what were bustling shops. A walk up Charing Cross Road leaves a similar impression, though there are more people about. In London, the Korean tourists look healthier and more cheerful than the native British.

The British have long had a strange taste for uglifying themselves. The years of recession, like the war years, have given them the good excuse for indulging it. One sees more and more men and women dressed in bulging anoraks, as though they were going seal-hunting in the Arctic, instead of being about to board a bus in Oxford Street.

There is also a spreading fashion for bottle-green corduroy trousers (which king can have given his name to this material?) I've even seen a clergyman wearing bottle-green corduroy trousers, with a perfectly respectable dog collar, within a hundred yards of Westminster Abbey. Corduroy is cheap and long lasting, but black corduroy costs no more than bottle-green.

Foreign cities are not like this. Tokyo is admittedly a drab city, apart from the Imperial Gardens, but the men dress neatly and the women dress smartly. There are many poor people in Rome, but even they have a sense of style, and the shops are well stocked and busy. The Parisians are by no means as well dressed as they were — but one does not see many anoraks (or eskimos) in the Champs Elysées. Returning from Hong Kong to London is like revisiting an earlier age; one expects to hail a hansom cab at Heathrow, and see chimney-sweepers stumbling through the fog of Whitehall, so great is the contrast.

This new wave of British pessimism is confirmed by the pre-Christmas sales figures, and by the most recent opinion polls. Yesterday's *Sunday Times* had a survey of Christmas shopping which was so shocking it was rightly the lead story in the business section. One discount retailer said that this Christmas would be "one of the worst in 30 years". John Clare, the chief executive of Dixons, said that "sales graphs for some retailers would need to be vertical" to make up for lost profit.

Nearly £3 billion has been knocked off the share values of the leading non-food retailers. In the past fortnight, Marks & Spencer shares alone

have fallen by 10 per cent. What one can see by walking through the high streets is no illusion; half the clothes shops in the West End are considering marking down their prices, and the stockmarket has already marked down their shares.

Two major opinion polls over the weekend confirmed this pessimism. Friday's Gallup poll in *The Daily Telegraph* asked the question: "How do you think the financial situation of your household will change over the next 12 months?" Only 16.4 per cent

William Rees-Mogg

said that they expected it to get a little or a lot better; 37.4 per cent said it would get worse. That is a ratio of more than 2:1. In *The Observer*, an ICM poll showed similar pessimism: 30 per cent fear for the future of their jobs (though 33 per cent were confident); 50 per cent are pessimistic about the housing market, 59 per cent about the economy, 45 per cent about their own financial future.

There are almost unending individual stories of the same kind. Small

businesses are still failing, though not as many as in the depth of the recession; children are still being taken away from fee-paying schools; the great housing-market recovery of 1994 has not happened; black old-age pensioners are returning to the Caribbean, where there is at least some sun and families are more supportive. Unemployment is falling, but no one is quite sure why, since good jobs remain very hard to find. I have met again and again the same reply: "The recession is supposed to be over, but it is not over here." There is also the Lloyds disaster, a personal agony for ten or twenty thousand families who used to be well off, and a blow to Britain's professional reputation in finance.

The Austrian school of economists would have regarded this as a most disturbing sign, since they identified subjective expectation as the determining factor in economic decision making. Despite the recovery, expectation in Britain is still at a recession level, well below the levels of the late 1980s, but also below those of three years ago, when the recession was still severe. People then thought that things would probably get better; they now expect them to get worse. Of course there are economic benefits from this. Inflation is likely to remain low, and there will

be no surge of imports, so long as there is no cheer in the shops.

Yet there are economic as well as the more obvious political risks. Some American economists expect the next recession in 1996; the US recovery started earlier than ours and has already lasted longer than most post-war recoveries. Interest rates are still rising in the United States, and in 1994 long-term bond rates have risen throughout the world. British economic policy, with higher taxation and higher interest rates, is intended to ward off an inflationary threat in two years' time. Yet if no such threat arises, we might be drawn in 1996 into another recession, which could be made much worse by this mood of depression. Then Britain could see a collapse of confidence, and a further fall in the housing market, which is by far the largest item in the balance sheet of the individual family.

If 30 per cent of people are worried about losing their jobs, 50 per cent are worried about the housing market, and 59 per cent about the general economic outlook, the British people will continue to be extremely cautious about their spending decisions. There is not likely to be a recovery in the housing market in 1995 — which may be a good thing for the economy. But there is a risk of another sharp fall in the housing market in 1996, and that would not be a good thing at all.

I am not sure that Eddie George is getting it wrong — indeed he is trying to make an impossible guess about the effect his higher interest rates will have on buying decisions in two years' time. Yet the depression of expectations so evident this Christmas may be indicating a real downturn later on. If so, higher interest rates will only make it worse.

## The intellectual in politics

Highbrows such as Keith Joseph rarely have the necessary decisiveness to be senior ministers, argues Peter Riddell



RIDDELL ON MONDAY

like gentleman of letters. On the Labour side, Robin Cook, Chris Smith, Donald Dewar and Jack Straw are well-read and thoughtful, but only Gordon Brown, and perhaps Michael Meacher, qualify as intellectuals — though Mr Brown is often too cautious in his discussion of ideas. Even these assessments may be generous. It is no better among other frontbenchers, or on the back benches. The excitable and the shallow are more typical than the restrained and the thoughtful.

A number of Tory MPs with intellectual credentials have been given junior office — George Walden, Alan Howarth, Nigel Forster, Robert Jackson — but for a variety of reasons of personal circumstance and ap-  
tude they have not stayed long before returning to the back benches. Mr Walden, who had a glittering Foreign Office career, has never looked at home in the Commons.

One senior minister suggests that many intellectuals lack the decisiveness needed for ministerial office. They tend to see all sides of an issue and he slow to make up their minds, while in some cases also lacking the instinctive political feel to judge the mood of the Commons. William Waldegrave is not really an exception. Though he is a charming and reflective man, with solid achievements in, for instance, re-shaping science policy, his Cabinet career has moved sideways. It is revealing that David Williams, the outstanding Tory intellectual of his

generation, has been put in the whips' office first in order to learn some basic parliamentary skills and avoid the fate of others. The intellectuals who prosper generally have a more brutal side. Denis Healey and Nigel Lawson succeeded as Chancellors because they were decisive. They were able to rise above the options presented to them, in part because of a self-confidence bordering on arrogance. They listened to their advisers, certainly, but then made up their own minds.

It was this quality that Lord Joseph lacked. His preference for Socratic dialogue and his self-doubt meant that he seldom overcame the resistance to change of the Civil Service and vested interests. His record was full of errors which he later regretted: housing tower blocks, health service reorganisation and rises in public spending. Many ministerial memoirs of the 1980s have "yes, but" assessments of him. After praising his personal loyalty, Lord Lawson noted that he was "too unworried to be a really effective politician in the practical sense" and that he was "not a particularly distinguished Education Secretary". The late Nicholas Ridley, a long-time ally of Joseph's, wrote that he "could never quite bring himself, as a minister, to embark on the brave courses upon which he had called on us to embark. If he had become Prime Minister instead of Margaret Thatcher, I am sure he would not have had the strength and the resolve to carry through the programme which he had been proclaiming, like John the Baptist, in the wilderness."

What Lord Joseph possessed was a mixture of personal decency, sensitivity, courtesy and, above all, intellectual curiosity. In government, these qualities were often a handicap. In opposition, they were a huge asset. Through the Centre for Policy Studies he acted as an intellectual entrepreneur during the second half of the 1970s, bringing together the ideas of free market liberals. His activities, and in particular his influence upon Mrs Thatcher, helped change the policies of the Tory party. His high point was the Tory victory in May 1979. Lord Joseph himself admitted after his retirement that had he become leader, "it would have been a disaster for the party, the country and for me. I know my own capacities. Adequate for some jobs, but not for others."

## Fighting fit

PATRONS of the Naval and Military Club are to fight the battle of the bulge. Monocles have been shooting into orbit at the news of plans for a state-of-the-art gymnasium and sauna complex at the Piccadilly establishment.

In the 128 years since the "In and Out" moved into the former residence of Lord Palmerston, there has been little demand from members for physical activity. Most feel they've had more than enough of that in the line of duty. Snooker is quite popular: the more eccentric play squash.

But the conversion of the disused first-floor Long Room restaurant, currently being considered by Westminster Council, will offer members the chance to sculpt the body beautiful. An ex-navy fitness instructor will be on hand to lead warm-ups in St James's Park and offer encouragement to those grappling with the fitness room's torture machines.

"He's ready to get the members into shape, organise a bit of running around," explains club secretary Cdr Anthony Holt. "A lot of the younger members are really

quite keen, and we've already got people interested in joining on the basis of having such facilities available. The older members aren't particularly fussed."

The next step, already being considered, would be to find space for a swimming pool and so provide real competition for the RAC in Pall Mall. Not all approve. "It would be exhausting if we became some sort of sports centre," growls one veteran.

A NEW LEADER...  
A EURO REFERENDUM...  
A WHIP...

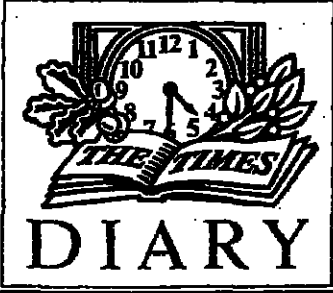


an, "I've seen those weights machines — like something from the Spanish Inquisition."

At the age of 81, Maj-Gen Sir Brian Wyldborne-Smith is happy as long as nobody tries to drag him along. "Whatever anyone else wants to do that's splendid."

●An eclectic mix of artefacts owned by Cambridge University is being assembled at Christie's for an exhibition in the new year. Alongside the Canterbury Gospels, said to have been given to St Augustine for his 8th-century mission to England, will be displayed tinned food left over from Scott's polar expedition.

Ex-chequer  
NOT EVERYONE has sold their shares in Norman Lamont. Over the last few weeks a mysterious punter has trailed round 17 London branches of the bookmaker William Hill backing the former Chancellor to become the next leader of the Tory party.



"We could save him some shoe leather if he told us how much he wants to place in total," says a spokesman for William Hill. "We've had people in the past asking how much it costs to cash the odds on someone they support. This man is always described by staff as a city gent. Other than that we can't say. We can't comment on the business or otherwise of his eyebrows."

### One law

RELATIONS between two of John Major's legal heavyweights are somewhat strained. I hear, since the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, penned a formal missive to Sir Derek Spencer, the Solicitor General. Mackay's letter

stated that, while a minister, Spencer can not sit as a Recorder. No minister except the Lord Chancellor can sit judicially. Spencer's recordership comes up for renewal this month, and he was informed it is in abeyance. But the tone of the letter surprised him.

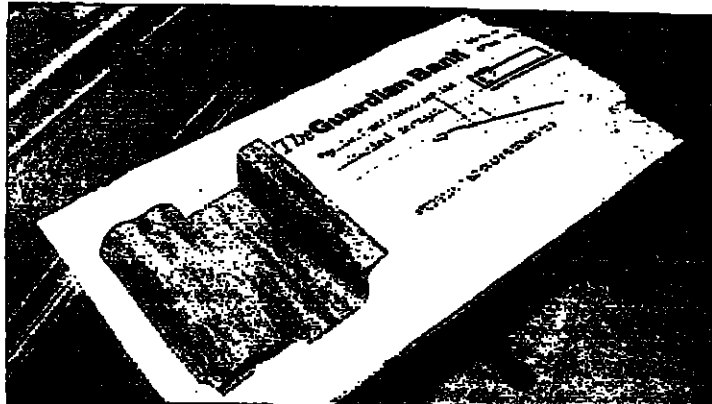
"He is a bit miffed as the wording did seem very stiff," says my legal insider. "They both serve in the same Government, so why didn't Mackay mention it to him personally?"

### Old school

LORD DENNING, now in his 96th year, still doesn't miss a trick. I reported recently that he was battling for Whitechurch Juniors, the Hampshire village school he attended 90 years ago, which has been bought by a property developer to convert into flats.

Now the former Master of the Rolls is bidding for National Lottery funds to pay for his legal challenge. "I intend to use the school for charitable purposes, not profit," he says. "It will be converted for the use of the people of Whitechurch."

●It may have been named after him in the 1920s. But 30 years later, the Duke of Windsor's enthusiasm



for the tie-knot he made so famous had palled. According to *The Book of Ties*, a new work by Francois Chaille, the Duke had strict advice for friends: "Don't use the Windsor knot any more, I've been copied too much, and badly."

### Slice of action

POLITICAL lobbyist Ian Greer has been waiting to stick the knife into *The Guardian* ever since he issued a libel writ over its cash-for-questions allegations. At his staff party at the Duke of York barracks on

Saturday, he finally got the chance. He was presented with a surprise Christmas present from his group managing director, Andrew Smith, of a 12 ft fruit cake baked by Jane Asher in the shape of a chequebook. Written in puce green icing on the top cheque were the words: "Pay Ian Greer Associates. Unlimited damages."

Greer insisted on cutting it himself. The forged signature of Peter Preston, the paper's Editor, vanished with the first incision.

P-H-S

هلنا من الاصل





## A FOOLISH INTERVENTION

The UN has no role in British race relations

Few people in Britain would boast that race relations in this country need no improvement. Almost every week newspapers carry reports of racial assaults, gang violence against minority groups and recriminations over real or imagined racial discrimination. Yet the news that the United Nations is to send a special inspector to Britain to look into "contemporary forms of racism" is breathtaking in its arrogance and hypocrisy. There has been no prior consultation with the British Government. Even human rights campaigners and black pressure groups are deeply sceptical of the mission's aims and motives. And an expensive report by a bloated bureaucracy will not only make no difference to race relations in Britain; it will add weight to the charge that the UN prefers rhetoric to realism, posturing to practice. The ostensible justification for the mission — that the UN has proclaimed 1995 a "year of tolerance" — is risible. Is tolerance less important in other years? What can the UN tell Britain and America, the first two countries to be investigated, about race relations that they do not already know? The very openness of these two countries seems to be the reason why Maurice Glegle-Ahanhanzo, the special investigator from Benin, has chosen to begin his officious mission here. The statistics are available, the Government makes no attempt to hide its activities in this sensitive field and the Commission of Racial Equality is on hand to open its case studies and provide some easily gathered anecdotes to prove whatever political point lies behind the muddled mandate. The UN insists that its investigation, far from wishing to censure what it finds, is here to look and learn, and see what

useful lessons can be applied elsewhere. Such cant is laid bare by Mr Glegle-Ahanhanzo's conclusion after a similar visit to America, where he claimed that African-Americans, Jews, Latinos, Arabs and American-Indians experienced racism every day, and that the "liberal ideology of the United States has turned itself into an ideology of selfish individualism." His zeal in reproducing clichés is not matched by efficiency of method or courtesy of approach. Informing, rather than asking, the Government of his visit, he arranged appointments last week with the Home Office, the Foreign Office and the CRE. These were suddenly cancelled at the last minute, with "unforeseen circumstances" standing in as a lame excuse. Now, however, it suits him to arrive; the way has already been prepared with veiled threats that any attempt to block his proposed hearings on discrimination in education, housing, justice, health and employment over the next 11 days will be judged a breach of Britain's commitments to the UN. The genesis of this mission was the resentment many Third World countries felt at what they saw as the "disproportionate" focus on abuses in the developing world, and the relative silence over race relations in richer, industrialised countries. Turkey, especially, was piqued at the focus on its treatment of Kurds, and wanted more publicity for the treatment of Turkish migrant workers in Germany. But the hypocrisy of searching for motives while ignoring beams has been known for 2,000 years; and not even the fashion for political correctness justifies this grotesque disproportionality now.

## THE DANCE RUNS OUT OF TIME

Why hesitate any longer about a referendum?

A most unlikely Cabinet coalition seems to have formed, between the passionate Eurosceptic, Michael Portillo, and equally committed Europhiles, Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine. All three now say that they oppose the idea of a national referendum on Europe. None will admit it publicly, but each surely worries that his side would lose. Given that they are on opposite sides, this merely shows that the outcome would be close, and that the public would be receptive to a well argued campaign. The worst argument against a referendum is that it might go "the wrong way" — whichever way that is. If Britain is to embark upon major constitutional changes such as joining a single currency, it can only be done with the consent of the people, tacit or spoken. Were opinion in Britain to be overwhelmingly in favour of integration with the Continent, then tacit acceptance could be assumed. It is because the nation is divided that clear consent must be given. To force the British people into an irreversible course of action would be both morally wrong and politically rash. A Government that did so would assuredly be punished. Until yesterday, it was generally those in favour of closer integration who feared a referendum (with Paddy Ashdown the honourable exception). They worried that the nationalist card would trump all others. Yet in the seven European referendums of the past few years — Denmark, France, Ireland, Finland, Sweden, Austria and Norway — six have gone the integrationist way (in Denmark on the second attempt). Usually the main political parties have combined with business to back a "yes" vote, with the other side supported by fringe parties with less money and clout. On that basis, Mr Portillo would have more reason to worry than Messrs Clarke or Heseltine. Unless, that is, his arguments are patently

more convincing. The Foreign Secretary, Douglas Hurd, has apparently written to ministers urging them to extol the "overwhelming benefits" of EC membership and suggesting a debate on whether Britain could afford not to join a single currency. That Mr Hurd should feel defensive even about Britain's EC membership is a sign of how far he has let the debate go by default. It would be interesting if the integrationists could indeed adduce evidence, say, that Britain would lose direct investment if it kept its own currency. Such a national debate would be a useful precursor to a referendum. For the best argument against a poll is that it would turn into a vote upon the Government of the day. In today's political circumstances, that would mean a landslide against whichever option the Government backed. But this would only happen if John Major whipped his ministers behind him. If, instead, he allowed them to campaign with their conscience, just as Harold Wilson did in 1975, then the public would have to address the issue itself, rather than the unpopularity of the Government. Promising a referendum now would have clear political advantages for both main parties. Mr Major could solve many of his internal party difficulties and bring his rebels back into line. Tony Blair could be seen to be practising the greater democracy that he preaches. A referendum is almost certainly going to happen; the question merely remains which leader will promise it first. Given that 70 per cent of the electorate want a say on Europe, it seems extraordinary that Britain's two main party leaders are still dancing this stately gavotte, hinting ever more strongly that they will back a referendum without actually doing so. It is time that the music stopped and the dancers took action.

## UNCOMMON TOUCH

Keith Joseph was a philosopher-politician of lasting importance

Baron Joseph of Portsmouth will be remembered as one of the Conservative Party's greatest prophets. It may be true that he lacked the administrative skills and common touch needed to translate ideas into practical politics. As Education Secretary between 1981 and 1986, for instance, he never quite mastered the political will needed to address the educational problems he identified so well. He was less adept at dismantling bureaucracy than he might have wished to be. But as an architect of policy — rather than a builder — he played a towering role in the Thatcherite revolution of the 1980s. Along with Lord Howe and Enoch Powell, Lord Joseph provided a link between the world of Westminster and Whitehall, and the New Right milieu of Hayek, Friedman and the Mont Pelerin Society. Without Lord Joseph's intellectual curiosity, it might have taken much longer for the flaws of the postwar state to be addressed. In 1964, he visited the free market think-tank the Institute of Economic Affairs, picking up leaflets like a "buyer at a fair". The right-wing Conservative reaction against consensus politics was not to gather pace for more than a decade. But when it did, Lord Joseph was at its helm. In this role, he combined intellectual rigour with a rare political honesty. He was an early champion of the phrase "social market" — later misappropriated by the centre-left — to indicate the interdependence of free markets and stable communities. Government, he argued, could not abdicate

its central responsibility to maintain stable prices, even if this forced an increase in the rate of unemployment. Poverty should be judged with reference to "an absolute standard of means defined by reference to the actual needs of the poor" rather than the woollier definitions preferred by the left. A free economy required "differentials at every level". Tough decisions rather than sentimental social engineering were needed to break the "cycle of deprivation" which so afflicted, and afflicted, the inner cities. Too often Lord Joseph was caricatured as a heartless ideologue who cared little for the sufferings of the disadvantaged. In fact, the opposite was true. Few prominent politicians this century have wrestled so publicly with the promptings of conscience. His notorious speech on single parenthood in Birmingham 20 years ago — in which he claimed that "a rising proportion of children are being born to mothers least fitted to bring children into the world" — was interpreted as a monstrous call for new eugenic controls. More accurately it may be said to have reflected Lord Joseph's lifelong concern with poverty, the family and the growing dependency culture. If such concerns occasionally led him beyond the *bien-pensant* pale, this was merely because he considered the dignity of the poor more important than political correctness. This honesty marked him out from most of his contemporaries; though Lord Joseph never reached the highest offices, his achievements will long be a model to those who do.

## Threat to terrace at the National

From Lord Annan

Sir, Lambeth Council has notified Sir Denys Lasdun, architect of the Royal National Theatre, that the board of the theatre has applied for planning permission to demolish (among other things) the building's Lower Terrace connecting it with Waterloo Bridge. It is not only Sir Denys who is dismayed. Many members of the public, among them other distinguished architects, are appalled by this intention to commit an act of vandalism. The Royal National Theatre is a Grade II\* listed building. The Lower Terrace is not just a "west walkway", in the words of Lambeth's notification. It is an integral part of a famous modern building with a worldwide reputation. To remove it would destroy the theatre's relationship to Waterloo Bridge, from which people can walk to the upper entrance of the theatre. But it is worse than that. It would destroy the whole architectural composition of the building. It is indeed like removing the lower jaw from someone's face. One is reminded of Dean Swift: "Last week I saw a woman flayed, and you will hardly believe, how much it altered her appearance for the worse."

Yours faithfully,  
NOEL ANNAN,  
Lord of Lords.  
December 9.

## Airports in SE

From Sir Dick Pantlin

Sir, The importance of the letter from the British Air Transport Association and others (December 2) can hardly be stressed too much. Having just returned from Hong Kong, where the new airport project and the rapid communications to it are of awe-inspiring proportions, it is not desirable urgently to re-open the study of the creation of a major airport in the Thames Estuary? Such an airport with rapid links to central London as well as to the Channel Tunnel rail link would solve the problems once and for all, would produce work for many thousands of people, would be capable of reducing the traffic in existing airports situated in major residential areas, would be a good investment in our infrastructure, and might well attract business and tourist traffic from some continental airports as well as earn foreign currency. Surely the time has come for such a major new initiative. Yours faithfully,  
DICK PANTLIN,  
11 Avenue de Mercure,  
1180 Brussels.  
December 2.

## Red Cross origins

From the Reverend M. T. Elvins

Sir, In your edition of November 26 the appeal for the British Red Cross Society failed to acknowledge the original inspiration of this great work. Henry Dunant was indeed shocked by the carnage at the Battle of Solferino (1859) into calling for the setting-up of an international relief agency, but he was also inspired by the sight of the red cross on the habits of about 100 Camillian Brothers. These religious brethren, together with about 36 nurses, cared for the wounded and dying on the field of Solferino. These were the first to use the red cross in this way, which was not only specifically religious, but also a sign of neutrality. The Camillian Brothers in fact co-operated with the international Red Cross, after it had been established, at the defeat by the Austrian army of the Italians at the Battle of Custoza (1866), in the Franco-Prussian war in 1870 and during the Great War (1914-18). It seems a pity therefore that the international convention today should not acknowledge this original work under the sign of the red cross.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,  
MARK T. ELVINS,  
c/o The Priests' House,  
Tanyard, Church Lane,  
Henfield, West Sussex.  
December 2.

## Iceman's occupation

From Dr Michael L. Ryder

Sir, With reference to the question as to what the iceman Otzi was doing in the high Alps, and Professor Lippert's suggestion that he was herding sheep down from summer mountain grazings (article, December 5), I have already pointed out ("What does the Frozen Man tell us about Textiles?", *Archaeological Textiles Newsletter* (15), 1992) that among all the elaborate (mostly hunting) equipment he carried, the man did not have a single piece of shepherding equipment. Also the height of 3,200m, at which the frozen man was found, appears to be very high for grazing, even in the milder Atlantic climate of the period (see my book, *Sheep and Man*, Duckworth, 1983). There could well be simpler explanations than the alternative, disaster, scenario of Professor Spindler, but there is certainly no evidence to support the idea that iceman Otzi was a shepherd.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL L. RYDER,  
4 Osprey Close,  
Lord's Wood, Southampton.  
December 5.

## EU priorities on animal welfare

From Sir David Naish, President, National Farmers' Union

Sir, When the Minister of Agriculture and his European colleagues in the Council of Ministers meet on December 12 and 13, they may be tempted to believe that the public controversy over live animal exports to Europe has temporarily abated (report, October 31; letter, November 1). This should be no excuse for inaction. The fact is that continued delay and indecision in Whitehall and Brussels are leaving British farmers and animal welfareists in a position of uncertainty and frustration.

It is time for decisive action to be taken, both at home and in Europe, to protect animal welfare, and to ensure that our high standards become Europe's high standards. We continue to believe that live export, under the highest regulated welfare standards, is a legitimate trade for British farmers. However, that trade has been threatened by a minority of hauliers who have consistently breached the rules.

British farmers have co-operated with the Government on a strict new code of practice which would set guidelines for all involved in the trade. The NFU, the RSPCA and other bodies have called for the prosecution of offending hauliers and exporters. We have called for Europe-wide arrangements which would end the non-sense of British farmers caring for their livestock on this side of the Channel, only for others to trade in misery once they leave our shores.

Since then the only people who seem to have lost out are British farmers. The very people who work to the strictest animal welfare rules are the ones to see their livelihoods threatened by the decisions of the ferry companies, and the indecision of the Government and the EU. The minister should spur on his European colleagues to adopt European rules with real teeth. This issue has generated much public concern.

## Women in the NHS

From Baroness Cumberlege, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department of Health

Sir, Susan Corby's research findings ("Hurdles to equality", Public Management, December 8) show an even more interesting picture if they are seen in context. Far from having few women senior managers, as Ms Corby alleges, the NHS compares very favourably with the private sector. Even in 1991, 18 per cent of NHS chief executives were women, as compared with 9 per cent in the private sector in 1993. However, as the largest employer of women in Europe, ministers are determined that the NHS should be in the lead in promoting better opportunities for women. Progress is very encouraging. Since 1991, when the NHS signed up to the Opportunity 2000 goals, the proportion of women on senior managers' pay scale has increased from 31 per cent to 45 per cent and the number of women consultants has risen by 5 per cent; women have been appointed to 38 per cent of vacant chief executive posts; and nearly 300 nurses and members of the professions allied to medicine have been sponsored on masters-level management degree programmes. Every year the NHS spends more than £2 billion on training staff and it is vital that we realise this investment of taxpayers' money. There is also a strong business case for "family-friendly" employment practices, encouraging staff to remain in the NHS — which is why more than 50 per cent of NHS employers already provide some form of childcare. Yours sincerely,  
CUMBERLEGE,  
Department of Health,  
Richmond House, 79 Whitehall, SW1.  
December 8.

## Lottery doubts

From Mr Mark Dunn

Sir, The very odd assertions, not to say mathematical absurdities, set out by Mr Peter Davis, Director-General of the National Lottery (letter, November 29), have certainly failed to reassure this reader about the soundness of the lottery.

First he asserts that there are weekly deviations from theoretical expectations of up to 30 per cent caused by unrandom number selection by players. Perhaps he can explain further, but on the face of it there would seem to be something wrong with his theory, and not with the facts.

Odder still is Mr Davis's later statement about the possibility of a shortfall: "the chances of this happening are extremely remote" [my italics]. It is

Now it must generate some political leadership.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID NAISH, President,  
National Farmers' Union,  
22 Long Acre, WC2.  
December 8.

From the Director of Compassion in World Farming

Sir, The European Union's agriculture ministers will decide on Monday and Tuesday in Brussels whether to allow BST (bovine somatotropin), the genetically engineered milk-boosting hormone, to be used on our dairy cows. This decision is often seen in political terms as sending an important message to the biotechnology industry. BST is the first product of biotechnology to be up for widespread farm use, and concern at its licensing has been expressed by many farmer and consumer organisations.

Compassion in World Farming is opposed to licensing of BST purely on animal welfare grounds. Sufficient research evidence exists to show that cows treated with BST will show an increased incidence of mastitis — that highly painful udder inflammation.

Literature supplied by a BST company to US farmers, who have been using the product since February 1994, refers to a host of other health problems in cattle which may arise as a result of the BST injections — which in themselves frequently produce tender swellings.

It is vital that animal welfare has priority when the BST decision is taken. If the Government allows this product to be used on our cows, we believe it could be contravening the law, which makes it an offence to cause unnecessary suffering to livestock.

Yours sincerely,  
JOYCE D'SILVA, Director,  
Compassion in World Farming,  
Charles House, 5a Charles Street,  
Petersfield, Hampshire.  
December 9.

## Caesarean births

From Dr Colin Francombe

Sir, In today's Times Dr Thomas Stuttard quotes John Friend, a consultant obstetrician and spokesman at the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, as saying he is puzzled as to how the figures suggesting the Caesarean rates had increased were collected.

I am happy to tell him that I collected the information from 136 hospitals covering over 400,000 deliveries in 1993, about 60 per cent of all those carried out. These were largely those that participated in the earlier study which was published in the book that I co-wrote, *Caesarean Birth in Britain*.

Mr Friend says that he doubts the Caesarean rates are rising rapidly and quotes figures up to 1992. However, it is the 1993 figures which are important. I have data from 97 hospitals covering 281,000 deliveries which are directly comparable with 1992. In 82 hospitals the rate rose, and in only 14 did it fall. The other remained the same. The rise in rates was an average of 2.4 per cent, which is the largest ever increase in the rates, and the rates are now at the highest level ever.

I wrote to a sample of consultants to ask them why their rates had risen and 26 wrote back to me. Of these, 18 mentioned fear of litigation as a factor in the rise. This means that in some cases Caesareans are not being performed in order for women to have a safe delivery, but because the consultants are practising defensive medicine.

Yours sincerely,  
COLIN FRANCOMBE,  
Reader in Medical Sociology,  
Middlesex University,  
The Burroughs, NW4.  
December 7.

of the essence of lotteries that they are about extremely remote chances, and it is foolish indeed to run one that depends on an assumption that the organisers will be luckier than the players.

But oddest of all Mr Davis's arguments is the final one. If he considers it necessary for Camelot to provide external deposits and guarantees to protect prize-winners from unexpected circumstances within the lottery pool, then the matter becomes one of human judgment and not one of chance — and that's not a lottery.

I fear that Mr Davis will become a victim of his own loaded dice if he goes on like this.

Yours faithfully,  
MARK DUNN,  
Wildham, Stoughton,  
Chichester, West Sussex.

## A forest for Oslo?

From Mr Michael Wood

Sir, The best gift we can give the Norwegian people (letters, December 1, 3) is clean southwesterly winds, by seriously reducing our contribution to the acid in their rain. This would have the added benefit that they should be able to continue their generous gift of Christmas trees in future years.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL WOOD,  
The Roses, 29 Lawrence Grove,  
Henleaze, Bristol.  
December 3.

## Funding anomaly for Channel 4

From Mr Jeremy Isaacs and others

Sir, Channel 4 is one of the successes of recent broadcasting policy. But the funding formula, set out in the 1990 Broadcasting Act, allows only one quarter of any surplus it earns over a fixed proportion of terrestrial television revenues to be invested in programmes.

Half of any excess goes to ITV. By early next year, at the present rate of payment, the ITV companies will collectively have already received £100 million — all they estimated to get from Channel 4 over the full period of their licences.

Furthermore, two major regulatory changes of benefit to ITV have been made in the last two years: companies have been merged, and the number of advertising sales points been reduced from 13 to five, both resulting in considerable cost savings. ITV did not suggest that such changes should result in an increase in their bids.

The funding formula was a well-intentioned device to protect Channel 4. But the result in fact is that a minority Channel subsidises the shareholders of the ITV companies to the tune of some £50 million per year. Channel 4 now pays more to ITV than it can invest in drama and film combined. This cannot have been Parliament's intention.

Competition for audiences and revenue will get increasingly tough. We would argue that the best way to protect Channel 4's position is to allow it to invest more in original programming. The Independent Television Commission, whilst praising Channel 4's output, has expressed concern about its inability to commission more original UK programming. This arises directly from lack of resources.

If the £50 million being transferred to ITV were instead spent on British programming for Channel 4, our national film and television production base would be substantially expanded, as many as 1,000 jobs could be created, and Channel 4, holding to its remit, would be strengthened in its competition for revenue.

We have therefore formed a working group, "For Four", to campaign for swift government action to rectify this serious anomaly.

Yours sincerely,  
JEREMY ISAACS,  
DAVID ABBOTT,  
RICHARD EYRE,  
ALISTAIR GRANT,  
IAN MCGARRY,  
MARY QUANT,  
NICHOLAS SEROTA,  
DAVID VINES,  
YOUNG OF GRAFFHAM,  
80 New Concordia Wharf,  
Mill Street, Bermondsey, SE1.  
December 8.

## A little learning

From the Reverend Roger M. Whitehead

Sir, May I respond to the letter of Mr Andrew Selkirk (November 25). Fakenham Magna, until recently Little Fakenham, is actually in Suffolk, though post-coded in Norfolk. It was originally given the name to which it has now reverted in order to distinguish it from Fakenham Parva, an even smaller village near by which has now virtually disappeared.

Early map-makers translated Fakenham Magna to Great Fakenham but common sense soon led to it being called Little Fakenham to distinguish it from the town of Fakenham (pop c.6,000) in north Norfolk.

Some 20 years ago the district council, in its wisdom, decided to restore the original name of Fakenham Magna, to the confusion and mystification of many, including Mr Selkirk. The village had no say in the matter, nor did the Post Office, which has just been a little slow in catching up. The village is, in fact, a happy and active community of about 120 people who have worked hard to improve and equip their village and restore their attractive Saxon church of St Peter. A lot to be proud of, but no ideas above their station.

Yours,  
ROGER WHITEHEAD  
(Olim Rector of Euston, Barnham, Elveden and Fakenham Magna),  
Grovesway,  
Spur Road, Barnham Broom,  
Norwich, Norfolk.  
November 28.

## Underground music

From Mr Andrew McWhirter

Sir, I fully support Matthew Parris's plea for more leniency towards buskers on London Underground (article, December 5). They provide soothing entertainment and never, in my experience, press for contributions. Since London Underground is prepared to promote the visual arts and poetry, could it not see its way to licensing buskers?

The quality of performance is usually very good, but not always: a clarinetist at Knightsbridge a few weeks ago was playing what I can only describe as *Unravel's Bolero*.

Yours faithfully,  
ANDREW MCWHIRTER,  
17 Ash Road, Booker,  
High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.  
December 5.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.







OBITUARIES

LORD JOSEPH

Lord Joseph, CH, PC, Conservative politician and former Cabinet Minister, died on December 10 aged 76. He was born on January 17, 1918.

DURING his active career in politics, Keith Joseph was generally regarded as the chief intellectual influence on much of the domestic and economic policy of Margaret Thatcher. This was true not only when she was Leader of the Opposition but throughout all of her 1979-83 administration and for the greater part of her 1983-87 one. He was widely, and rightly, considered to be that rare phenomenon in British Conservative politics, a wholly genuine theorist as well as being a practitioner of politics. He owed his reputation to the consistency with which, during the latter part of his life, he advocated the principles of monetarism and the cause of a free economy. He was a passionate libertarian but his faith in liberty was founded not so much on the utilitarian premises of Jeremy Bentham and the young John Stuart Mill, as on the ultimately religious conviction that man's moral nature could only be expressed in a society in which he was free to make important personal choices. In brief, for him, liberty meant harmony and efficiency, not social disintegration. In his ideal society the State would confine itself to make general laws within which individuals would be free to pursue their own interests — while, of course, coming to the rescue of those who, through no fault of their own, fell into difficulty.

Once he had decided that these were his views, he advocated them unflinchingly in speeches which frequently had much more the quality of an academic lecture than of platform oratory. Tenacious and intense, and much moved by his religious certainties as a Jew, his personality, despite public parody, was not that of someone given to extreme views. He was kind, diffident in the extreme, courteous and an agonisingly scrupulous man. As Tony Benn's *The Benn Tapes* revealed only the other week, his public remoteness could easily give way in private conversation to friendship, wit and, sometimes, intimacy.

Yet underlying all this was an intensely nervous disposition related to a chronic, persistent and often painful set of physical ailments. It was largely this conflict in a complex personality which accounted for his last-minute decision in 1975 not to offer himself for the Conservative leadership — which was probably, for a few months, his for the taking. He never regretted this decision; Margaret Thatcher relished the opportunity thus presented, and was devoted to him as orator and friend thereafter.

Keith Joseph was the only child of Samuel George Joseph and the former Edna Cicely

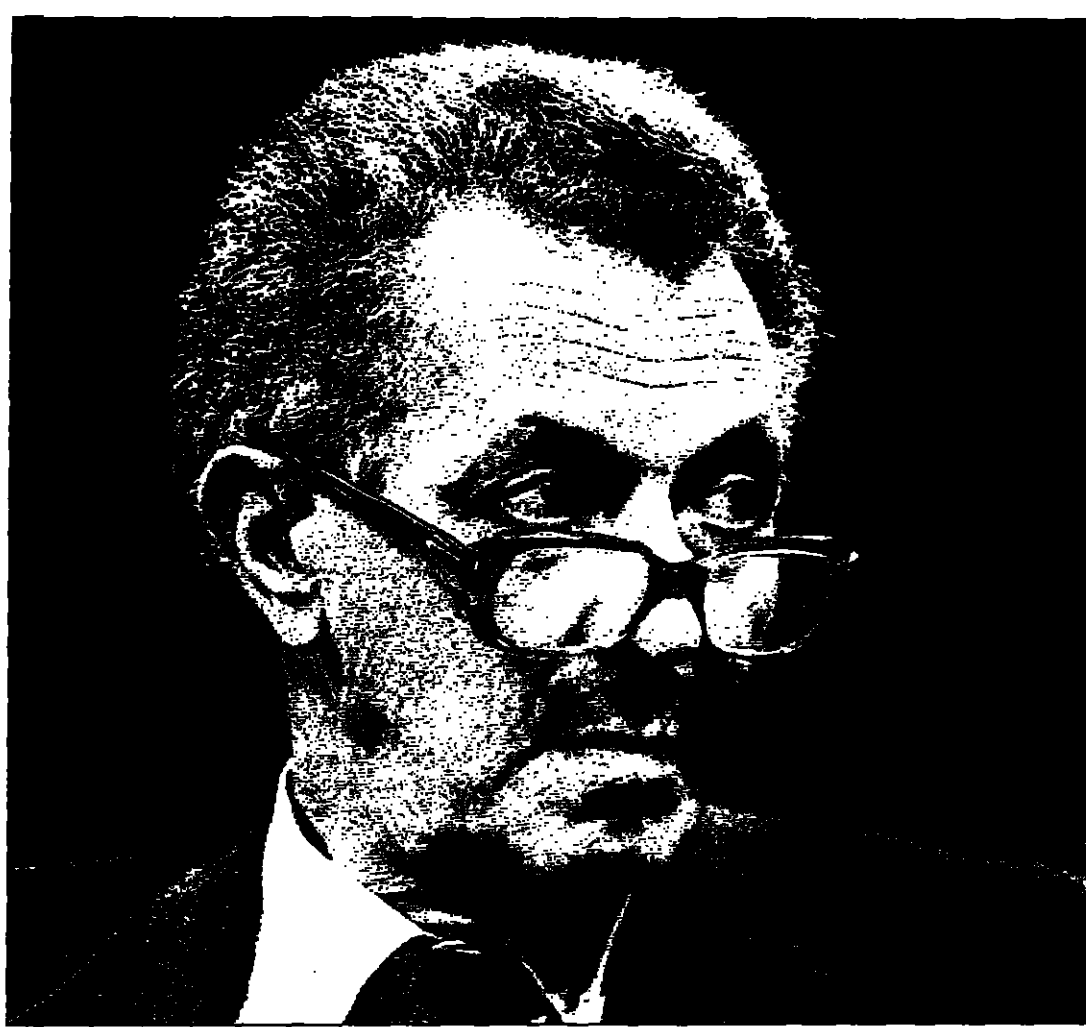
Phillips. Both sides of the family belonged to the affluent Jewish commercial aristocracy. His father founded the highly successful business property development company of Bovis and became Lord Mayor of London during the war, being awarded the then customary baronetcy at the end of his term of office (which his son inherited in 1943). Keith Joseph's background was cultivated as well as rich, and seemed to contribute both to his civilised tastes for literature and the arts, which were always with him, as well as to the considerable touch of moral austerity which remained one of his most prominent characteristics.

Educated at Harrow and at Magdalen College, Oxford, he took a first in Jurisprudence in 1939. As soon as war broke out he joined the Royal Artillery, was wounded in the Italian campaign, mentioned in dispatches and reached the rank of captain. Like so many of his generation, his career was disturbed by the war, and, though he was called to the Bar, he won in 1947 a prize fellowship to All Souls (though he was never by temperament a scholar). Indeed, he failed to finish his academic work on the concept of tolerance and became more the man of the political pamphlet than the academic tract.

While he was still at All Souls, he devoted much energy to his family business, and became chairman of Bovis for a while. His interests in public affairs grew rapidly, and he played his part in the City of London as a councillor and alderman, as well as applying himself energetically to charitable work within the Jewish community — even at this early stage his two chief interests were education and housing. Later on he was to found and control the Mulberry Trust which was a non-profit making housing association.

When he entered the House of Commons at the general election of 1955, he was one of only two Jewish Conservative MPs. He was elected for Leeds North East, a constituency which he was to represent for the rest of his Commons career. Then he was very much a Tory in the Butlerian mould (though he was never personally close to the founding father of modern Conservatism). But like Butler — and, indeed, Macmillan — he believed in consensus, the mixed economy and the Welfare State. He was exceptionally able so he was rapidly promoted, entering the Cabinet, under Macmillan, in 1962 as Minister of Housing and Local Government.

In Opposition between 1964 and 1970 he was a prominent frontbench Opposition spokesman on social services and trade (including technology and power). Throughout the time of the Heath administration between 1970 and 1974 he served as Secretary of State for the ever-burgeoning Department of Health and Social Security, striking up a particularly close



relationship with his Labour predecessor, Dick Crossman, who held him in high regard.

There is something of a mystery about this period, since by 1970 Joseph had already betrayed signs of being dissatisfied with the Keynesian postwar settlement. When he got to the Elephant and Castle, one of the first things he did was to get in touch with Professor Alan Walters, then at the LSE, whom he tried to persuade to come and work with him (it was to be another 12 years before Walters finally accepted Margaret Thatcher's invitation to go and work in Downing Street). By the time he joined the Heath Cabinet, Joseph had also made the acquaintance of Alfred Sherman, who had written some speeches for him. Yet at the DHSS from 1970 to 1974, as at the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in 1962 to 1964, he proved to be the most conventional of spending ministers — perhaps going some way to justify Sherman's later gibe that he had a tendency to be "a lion in opposition and a lamb in government".

At least, though, it can be said on Joseph's behalf that he never sought to disguise what he saw as his own failings. After his conversion to monetarism — signalled by his Preston speech of September 5, 1974 — he often repented of his activities both at

Housing and Social Services. He had, of course, a good deal to own up to. In the latter part he had encouraged ever-accelerating public expenditure, as well as equipping the National Health Service with a bureaucratic structure of mind-boggling complexity; while at Housing he was accused of building concrete jungles, and — in the aftermath of Roshomonism — of having done too much to protect tenants against landlords. He especially regretted the tower blocks he had built — part of the architectural and social legacy of the early 1960s. Congratulating one newly appointed Housing Minister in the 1980s he said: "Well done. You'll find lots of problems in your new job. I caused many of them."

Suddenly, towards the end of the Heath years, he experienced a deep political conversion, discovering that the major tenets and assumptions of postwar Toryism, of which he had been an intelligent purveyor as any of his colleagues, were misguided and misplaced. Collectivism was seen suddenly to be wrong, high public expenditure to be bad, large-scale public employment an evil. The differences between himself and the party leader became increasingly plain in the unhappy Tory months that divided the general elections of February and October 1974.

It was then, with the albeit grudging consent of the then Lead-

er of the Opposition, that Joseph established the Centre for Policy Studies, devoted to the cause of liberal capitalism; his co-founder was Margaret Thatcher. After Edward Heath's second defeat in October 1974 disaffected Tory backbenchers turned to this experienced administrator and politician who was suddenly in tune with the times, and who had recanted publicly and often from the errors of collectivism. Alas, his public utterances at the time wrecked any leadership ambitions that he may have had (he was later to say that, had he become party leader, "it would have been a disaster for the party, the country and for me").

In particular, suggestions in a speech at Birmingham that the poor were naturally both promiscuous and improvident seemed to cast doubts on his suitability as leader — not only in the minds of some of the party but in his own mind as well. So he supported the election of Margaret Thatcher, and played for her the role that Rab Butler had carried out in the formulation of Conservative policy in the postwar Opposition years. He was a crucial influence in the run-up to the Conservative victory in the general election of 1979.

Although some thought he might become Chancellor, the new Prime Minister appointed him Secretary of State for Industry. He promptly

set about dismembering subsidies and redrawing the map of regional assistance in the country. But he did this with great circumspection, and it was with evident distaste that he found it continually necessary to commit large sums of public money to sustain a British Steel or a British Leyland. He compromised theory with reality, despite driving his officials into lengthy seminars — and indeed instructing them with a reading list of economic and other improving texts.

Perhaps, in the end, it was his attachment to the public good, deep-seated in his earlier political life, which made him susceptible to well-reasoned argument and thus led him to compromise his particular system of desired economic management. Whether out of disenchantment with his own performance or not, he asked to be moved to the Department for Education and his distinguished, if agonised, features became a familiar sight on the television screen, on which he always appeared in impeccably cut suits — he was once voted one of the top ten best dressed men in the country.

He probably found his natural intellectual niche as Secretary of State for Education, although some thought his apparent slowness in promoting change was due to his way of conducting departmental business. He did this by endlessly (and courteously) arbitrating between the views of ministers and officials as though he were conducting a seminar.

Almost physically pained at times by institutional mediocrity, he devised a broad strategy to raise standards — and the expectations of British schoolchildren. His keynote speech was given in Sheffield on January 4, 1984. It was well received, even by entrenched educational interests.

Yet at precisely the point when he was succeeding both in moving the educational establishment slowly in the direction he wished, and beginning to be credited with a grand design to improve the quality of education, two aspects of his intellect clashed sharply with each other. His desire to cut public expenditure — which prevented him from seeking greater funds for his Department — met the urgent need he felt to raise standards head-on.

Accordingly, just as he was beginning not only to gain the confidence but even to charm a hitherto surly and suspicious teaching profession, he lost it through an inflexible determination not to breach the Government's pay aims that year. The resultant disruption to schools was the longest in British history. It was a deeply unhappy time for Joseph, as well as for education, and it came as little surprise when, on the ground that he would not be fighting the next election, he asked to be relieved of his post in the spring of 1986. He was created a life peer in the Dissolution Honours of 1987.

His attempts to raise standards, improve the curriculum, switch some of the national educational effort towards the more productive fields of science and technology — together with his débacle over student grants (infuriating the middle classes who rose in revolt over the threat of being asked to contribute to tuition fees) — had given rise to an extraordinary paradox. For here was the most cultivated and intellectually gifted Education Secretary of modern times, pursuing a policy which was branded by many as Philistine. It is nevertheless for his courageous and quietly persistent efforts to make people think about educational standards, and then raise them, that he should be properly remembered.

He will, of course, also be remembered for other things. There was always an attractive air of innocence to him, reflected in his famous statement in 1975 that it was only the previous year that he had been converted to Conservatism — "I had thought I was a Conservative but I now see that I was not one at all." It is difficult to imagine any other practising politician — he was already at the time a former Cabinet minister of some six years' experience — who could have got away with that kind of public confession. But in Keith Joseph's case it was his very honesty that provided his breastplate.

Unfortunately, on more practical matters, it could sometimes turn into naivety. On one occasion he was to be seen totally flummoxed standing in front of the closed booking office at Westminster Underground station. The intimation from a fellow passenger that it was possible — as it was in those days — to pay at the other end was received with professions of undying gratitude.

Equally guileless was his approach to the mass media. He once found himself involved in a television interview that had not gone well. When the lights went down, he asked the interviewer — "Not your fault of course, entirely mine" — if he could do it again. "But I thought you realised, Sir Keith," said his interrogator "that this was a live interview." "Yes, yes, I know that," came the slightly impatient reply, "that's why I want to do it again." Not merely the interviewer but the whole camera crew hardly knew where to look. Their bewilderment might have been marginally tempered had they realised that for many years he stood out against even having a television set in his home.

Keith Joseph married in 1951 Helen Louise Guggenheimer, a talented sculptress. In 1978 they separated by mutual consent, and the marriage was dissolved in 1983. He married, secondly, Yolanda Sheriff in 1990, who survives him, together with one son and three daughters of his first marriage. His son now inherits the baronetcy.

RICHARD KETTLEWELL

Richard Kettlewell, CMG, former Director of Agriculture and Member of the Legislative and Executive Councils of Nyasaland, died on November 17 aged 84. He was born on February 12, 1910.

AS THE senior agriculturalist in Nyasaland (now Malawi) during much of the 1950s, Richard Kettlewell inaugurated a determined campaign to conserve the country's natural resources which were in danger of being overwhelmed by an alarming growth in population and the consequent threat of serious soil erosion. He coupled this with the enforcement of early planning legislation to avoid a repetition of a near-disastrous famine.

These measures placed upon African cultivators much arduous labour which was gravely unpopular and a target for political attack. There were, however, two major lasting results of Kettlewell's leadership. First, soil erosion was slowed down and, in many places stopped — an invaluable legacy to later cultivators. Second, the increased individual and public incomes derived from greatly expanded production and improved marketing, demonstrated — for those prepared to see it — Nyasaland's ability to support itself and to do so in a relatively short period.

When the time came, Nyasaland survived the withdrawal of Federal support and relatively soon after independence was able to manage without British financial support on recurrent account.

Dick Kettlewell was educated at the Dragon School, Oxford, and Clifton College. His early intention was to join the Royal Navy, but vacancies were few and instead he read Agriculture at Reading University. He was then appointed to the Colonial Agricultural Service and, following postgraduate study, arrived in Nyasaland in July 1934. It was in this Protectorate that he was to spend the whole of his colonial service career and to which he was to make an outstanding and lasting contribution.

His early years in Nyasaland were spent as the only Agricultural Officer in the Northern Province, touring in remote areas, encouraging better cultivation of staple food crops and the limited range of commercial crops: an "endlessly interesting and infinitely valuable" experience. During this prewar period he acquired a deep knowledge of the people and the value of working closely with the District Commissioners as well as of the soils and vegetation.

Early in 1939 Kettlewell was commissioned in the King's African Rifles Reserve and served in Kenya.



Somaliland, Aden, Abyssinia and Ceylon, as intelligence officer and later adjutant and brigade major. By mid-1943, however, the imperial need for increased food production was such that he was recalled to Nyasaland and was shortly promoted Senior Agricultural Officer. By 1949 the Colonial Office had recognised Kettlewell's potential, and believed that he would benefit from

experience in another territory before being further promoted. At this point fate, in the form of the new Governor, Sir Geoffrey Colby, intervened. Faced with a serious famine, Colby refused to allow any officer connected with food supply to leave the country, so Kettlewell remained.

Colby then asked for Kettlewell — whose worth he had immediately recognised — to be promoted and left in Nyasaland. The Colonial Office countered with the offer of a Professorship in Trinidad, which Kettlewell declined. The incumbent Director in Nyasaland was transferred to the Gambia, and after his successor stayed only six months, the Governor had enough changes at the top of his Agricultural Department and successfully demanded that Kettlewell be made Director in April 1951.

Colby, the most progressive development Governor Nyasaland ever had, a man determined rapidly to raise living standards primarily through improved African agriculture, could have had no more loyal, gifted and dynamic colleague with whom to implement his policies than his new Director of Agriculture. Under Kettlewell, the field staff and experimental work of the Department expanded rapidly, and the production of food crops and a widening range of cash crops in-

creased many-fold. Such was the development foundation laid by Colby and Kettlewell in the years 1951 to 1956. It was a crucial period: the last chance to make major agricultural progress before rising nationalism made such progress impossible until after independence.

During the subsequent period of political agitation, Kettlewell — with his military experience, his profound knowledge of the country and his close working relationships with District Commissioners — was appointed to the Nyasaland Operations Committee when the March 1959 state of emergency was declared. He played a vital role, planning activities in a way which quickly brought the violence under control.

Later in 1959 he was appointed Secretary for Natural Resources, a post which was short lived. With the end of the emergency and rapid steps towards self-government, Kettlewell became the first of Nyasaland's "constitutional casualties", being compulsorily retired in 1962.

He returned to Britain, and spent 16 years as a consultant specialising in tropical agriculture, travelling extensively, especially in South-East Asia. He finally retired in 1979.

In 1935 he married Margaret Palmer who had studied with him at Reading and died in 1990. He is survived by a son and a daughter.

CHARLES BASKERVILLE

Charles Baskerville, American portrait painter and muralist, died in New York on November 20 aged 98. He was born in Raleigh, North Carolina, in 1896.

THOSE who sat for Charles Baskerville in the course of his career, which lasted for more than seven decades, had to be prepared to see themselves the way they were, wars and all. Yet Baskerville's obsession with truth in art did not prevent him from serving a clientele that included heads of state, captains of industry, pillars of the legal profession and leaders of society.

His subjects included the Duchess of Windsor, Bernard Baruch, Jawaharlal Nehru, Cornelius Vanderbilt Whitney, Richard Rodgers, Helen Hayes, and the King of Nepal. To reach the last, Baskerville trekked by pony and on foot through the Himalayas to Kathmandu.

The son of a chemistry professor, Baskerville originally intended to become an architect but interrupted his studies at Cornell University to join the Rainbow Division

in the First World War. He won the Silver Star for gallantry in action as an infantry lieutenant, and after the war returned to Cornell but decided to pursue a career in art.

During the Second World War Baskerville was designated official portrait painter to the US Army Air Forces, and travelled to several theatres of war to produce more than 60 likenesses of officers and enlisted men which are now on permanent display in the Pentagon.

As a muralist, Baskerville had a talent for paintings on the grand scale which reflected the taste of the time. Among other places they adorned the lounge and ballroom of the liner *American*, the Wall Street Club and the conference room of the Joint Committee on Military Affairs of the Senate. Baskerville staged a dozen one-man shows in New York, and his work was exhibited at the National Gallery of Art and the Corcoran Gallery in Washington, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Whitney Museum in New York, the Carnegie Institute in Pittsburgh and the Chicago Art Institute.

Church news

**Appointments**  
The Rev Brian Andrews, Vicar, Abbots Langley, St Albans (St Albans): to be also an Honorary Canon of the Cathedral and Abbey Church of St Albans.  
The Rev Jonathan Boston, Vicar, Horsford and Horsford St Faith (Norwich): to be also Chaplain to the Norfolk Police Force in Norwich.  
The Rev Robert Branson, Vicar, Aylsham (Norwich): to be also Chaplain to the Norfolk Police Force in North Norfolk.  
The Rev David Bryant, Vicar, Sowerby and Priest-in-charge, Sessay: to be Vicar, Lasingham w Appleton-le-Moors, Roseale and Cropton (York).  
The Rev John Chitham, Curate, Swanborough (Salisbury): now Mission Partner in Training, Church Missionary Society.  
The Rev Stephen Cook, Team Vicar, Keynsham Team Ministry (Bath and Wells): to be Vicar,

Henham (Bristol).  
The Rev Adrian Esdaile, Team Vicar, Chipping Barnet w Arkley (St Albans): to be also an Honorary Canon of the Cathedral and Abbey Church of St Albans.  
The Rev Christopher Gray, Curate, St Jude, Cantril Farm: to be Priest-in-charge, St Margaret, Anfield (Liverpool), and Adviser in Evangelism.  
The Rev Frank Higgins, Rector, Ripple: to be Priest-in-charge, Dean of Upstoke: to be Priest-in-charge, Church Lane, Rous Lench (Worcester).  
The Rev Roger Huddleston, Vicar, Lyonsdown, Holy Trinity: to be also Rural Dean of Barnet (St Albans).  
The Rev Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Assistant Curate, Wolverhampton St Matthew: to be Associate Minister, West Bromwich Good Shepherd, and Black Anglican Concerns Officer for the diocese of Lichfield.

The Rev Nigel Jackson-Stevens, Rector, Lifford: to be also a Prebend of Exeter Cathedral.  
The Rev Kenneth Jones, Vicar, Holy Trinity, Millhouse, Sheffield: to be also Rural Dean of Ecclesall (Sheffield).  
The Rev Timothy Lewis Lloyd, Vicar, Chestnut (St Albans): to be also an Honorary Canon of the Cathedral and Abbey Church of St Albans.  
The Rev Paul McVagh, a missionary with Crosslinks working in Portugal (Europe): to be Rector, High Halstow w Allhallows and St Mary, Hoo (Rochester).  
The Rev Barry Oaks, Rector, North and South Wootton (Norwich): to be also Chaplain to the Norfolk Police Force in West Norfolk.  
The Rev Peter Palmer, Vicar, Kenworthy, Studham and Walslade (St Albans): to be also an Honorary Canon of the Cath-

edral and Abbey Church of St Albans.  
The Rev Kenneth Phillips, Vicar, Priors Hardwick w Priors Marston and Wormleighton (Coventry): to be also an Honorary Canon of Coventry Cathedral.  
The Rev Canon Dennis Raker, Rector, Derham and Scarning (mid-Norfolk group ministry), Honorary Canon of Norwich Cathedral (Norwich): to be also Chaplain to the Norfolk Police Force in South Norfolk.  
The Rev Gillian Sanderson, Team Vicar, Warwick Team Ministry (Coventry): to be also an Honorary Canon of Coventry Cathedral.  
The Rev Rachel Simper, Curate, Clitheroe St Mary Magdalene (Blackburn): to be Assistant Priest, Vicar, St Peter Mancroft w St John Maddermarket (Norwich).  
The Rev David Thurburn-Huslin, Vicar, St Mary the Virgin, Goldington (St Albans): to be Director of Local Non-stipendiary Ministry of the diocese of Truro.

MR IRVING ON THE CHARACTER OF MACBETH

Mr Henry Irving gave an address yesterday afternoon to the members of the Literary Society of Owens College, Manchester. Having been introduced by Dr Ward he said that when he received the invitation to appear at Owens College he came to the conclusion that perhaps the most fitting theme on which he could speak was the character of Macbeth. The generally received opinion regarding Macbeth, he went on to say, had been that a good man who had gone wrong under the influence of a wicked and dominant wife. For his part he thought that Shakespeare had in his text given Macbeth as one of the most bloody-minded, hypocritical villains in all his long gallery of portraits of men in contact with the virtues and vices of their kind. If chance was to do the dirty work for him, all well and good; but it was of the essence of evil natures that they could not wait, and must do their own dirty work; and of evil propensities that it conducted to its own fulfilment. After his meeting with the weird sisters he went away almost content to see what would happen. What did happen was the very spur needed to his wicked intent. The king in the full time of warlike and political success gave away

ON THIS DAY  
December 12 1894

In 1895 Henry Irving (1838-1905) became the first actor to receive a knighthood. He first played Macbeth in 1875, giving an interpretation of the character which aroused considerable criticism.

great rewards to all, and, amongst others, made his eldest son Prince of Cumberland, thus naming him to the succession of his throne, this point was the pivot in the action of the play.

The position of affairs now was that Macbeth had his former inchoate intention of murder crystallized into an immediate and determined resolve to do the deed, for he realized that the king's unconstitutional action would day by day raise an ever-heightening barrier between him and the throne. Up to this moment there had been constitutionally

in the present and in the immediate future — but one life between him and the golden circle. Now there were two, and possibly three, for what was done in case of Malcolm might yet be done in case of Donalbain, and so Macbeth, who was all resolute when his mind was made up for action, decided that the overleaping of the barrier must be done that very night.

When the murder was accomplished Macbeth was spared the further exercise of his craft, for Malcolm and Donalbain, who suspected him as the author of the deed, ran away to seek shelter out of Scotland, and he had only to blacken their characters by pointing to their flight as an evidence of their guilt, and he at once stepped into his place as King of Scotland. Macbeth was undoubtedly a brave man, but when his moral qualities came to be considered he could only be dubbed a villain. Hypocrite, murderer, traitor, regicide, he yet threw over his many crimes the glamour of his own self-tormenting thought.

A poetic mind on which the presages and suggestions of supernatural things could work a nature sensitive to intellectual emotion so that one could imagine him, even in his contemplation of coming crimes, to weep for the pain of the destined victim.







# CRICKET



# Tennis girls learn from stars' mistakes



25

**Eubank  
boxes  
clever  
in title  
defence**



35

## How to stay one step ahead of the field



24

**Australian  
youngsters  
humiliate  
woeful  
England**

# TIMES SPORT



## Improved Palace make their point in Anfield stalemate

# Liverpool slow on the draw

**BY RUSSELL KEMPSON**

Liverpool barely broke sweat in totting up a 6-1 win on

Both sides were also missing key personnel yesterday, with Palace having to do without Coleman and Liverpool without Rush, the pair having joined the Wales

19	West Ham	18
20	Sheff Wed	18
21	Leicester	18
22	Sheff Sat	18

Weekly change      Up

18	-9	WLDD
16	-8	LWDD
13	-14	LWDL
11	-20	LDLL

Stayed the same      Down

side, two minutes into the period, before Scales forced a smart save from James when almost slicing Humphrey's cross into his own net. Fowler, alive at last, twice went close

**Spice for Sugar, page 26**  
**United they stand, page 27**  
**Results and tables, page 28**

**TIFFANY**  
25 OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W.1  
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY HOME, 10  
BOND STREET LATE NIGHT

## PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE

	Played	Points	Goal diff.	Recent form
1. Blackpool	18	42	+26	WWWWW
2. Manchester Utd	18	41	+23	WWDDW
3. Newcastle	18	37	+18	WWLWW
4. Liverpool	18	32	+16	WLLDD
5. Arsenal	18	32	+15	WDLWW
6. Manchester City	17	28	+10	LDWWW
7. Tottenham	18	28	+7	WDLWL
8. Everton	18	27	+3	WDLWL
9. Norwich	18	27	+3	LDLWW
10. Leeds	18	25	+2	LDDWW
11. Coventry	18	23	+0	DWWDL
12. Reading	18	21	+2	DLDDD
13. Blackburn	18	21	-4	WDLDD
14. Southampton	18	21	-5	DWDLL
15. Sheffield Wed.	18	21	-7	DWDWL
16. Middlesbrough	18	21	-12	WWLLW
17. Bolton	18	19	-8	LWLWL
18. West Ham	18	18	-9	DWWWD
19. Burnley	18	18	-9	WLLDD
20. Derby Co.	18	16	-8	LWDDD
21. Luton	18	13	-14	LWLDL
22. Nottm.	18	11	-20	LLDLL

Weekly change      Up      Stayed the same      Down

**George Graham, the manager of Arsenal, yesterday denied having made any money out of the deal that took John Jensen, the Denmark international midfield player, to Highbury.** Page 3

right flank, was able to snuff out the danger.

Bowry provided a similar last-ditch clearance at the other end, keeping out a fierce glancing header from Barnes but the game's new-found polish soon faded into a scrappy finale. It ended, sadly, as it had begun. Poorly.

**CRYSTAL PALACE (3-5-2):** D. James — R. Shaw, G. Southgate, D. Gordon — J. Humphrey, R. Bowry, D. Pitcher, R. Newman, S. Sakso — C. Armstrong, A. Preece.  
Referee: K. Morton

**Spice for Sugar, page 26**  
**United they stand, page 27**  
**Results and tables, page 28**

★ **Learn how**

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...rabbies or simpl  
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TIFFAN



# Adams leads West Indies to formidable total



Adams: career best

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE West Indies bowlers were unable to make serious inroads into India's first innings in the third and final Test in Chandigarh yesterday after a career-best 174 not out by Jimmy Adams had helped the touring side reach 443, their highest score in the series.

After Adams had batted for seven-and-a-half hours before running out of partners, India replied with 95 for one.

With the West Indies looking for a win to square the rubber and so avoid losing a series for the first time since losing to New Zealand in 1980, their captain, Courtney Walsh, gave them a great start by forcing Navjot Singh to play the fifth ball of the innings into his

stumps. Hoever, the other opener, Manoj Prabhakar, and Sanjay Manjrekar played through to the close putting India, with plenty of batting to come, on course for a strong reply.

Prabhakar made a doughty 55 while Manjrekar, promoted to No 3 in place of the out-of-form Vinod Kambli, was on 33 when stumps were drawn. Manjrekar, however, was lucky to survive for Carl Hooper missed a waist-high chance at second slip off Kenny Benjamin in the closing moments of the final session.

The West Indies, whose previous best score in the series was 438 in the second Test at Nagpur, lost their first five wickets for 220 but were again well served by Adams, who has been their best batsman on the tour.

The 28-year-old Jamaican left-hander, who made 81 in the first Test in Bombay and 125 not out in the second, found the boundary 19 times. It was his third Test century in 12 matches.

On Saturday, Brian Lara at last threatened to make an impact in the series, but, after reaching 40, was trapped leg-before by an inswinger from the hard-working Jagmal Srinath. Carl Hooper again attacked the spinners, but after making 43 charged Kapoor and was stumped by Manjrekar, deputising for Monghia who was temporarily indisposed.

With West Indies 296 for six at the end of the first day, with only Adams remaining of the specialist batsmen, India could be pleased with their efforts, but yesterday Adams found an

able ally in the Durham all-rounder, Anderson Cummins, who completed his first half-century in Test cricket while 99 runs were added for the seventh wicket.

The last four wickets added 147 before the innings ended 25 minutes before tea. Adams scored 90 of these runs, but while he succeeded in farming the bowling to some extent, the Indian spinners made short work of the tail-enders.

The leg spinner, Anil Kumble, was India's most successful bowler with four for 90 and now needs one more wicket to reach 100 in Test cricket. He was well supported by the left-arm Venkatapathy Raju, with three for 72.

Scoreboard, page 32

## Australian prospects look bright after two one-day victories in Sydney

### Academy lessons humiliate England



Alan Lee, cricket correspondent, reports on a weekend of misery for tour manager Keith Fletcher

Here was a day on which Australian cricket could indulge in an orgy of self-congratulation while the English game hung its head. At the end of it, Keith Fletcher, the team manager, looked sick at heart and said he felt "ashamed". It was an emotion, he added pointedly, that he expected every one of his players to share.

Put badly, the details of the day are these: Australia's senior team beat the reserves in a titanic World Series Cup game in Adelaide, while, here in Sydney, England lost to Australia's colts. The indignity of the latter result is multiplied when it is known that the same thing happened on Saturday, that neither defeat can be defended and that yesterday's match was embarrassingly one-sided.

The Australian Academy won the limited-overs games by five wickets and six wickets, but whereas, on Saturday, they had only ten balls to spare, yesterday it was 41. It had been England's wish to turn this fixture into one-day cricket and when the Australian Board refused their original request, a spokesman jibed that "the kids will probably finish it early, anyway." By a curious route, it was a prophetic remark.

The ultimate humiliation for England, last evening, was having to return to the field when within yards of the sanctuary of the dressing-room, as the scorers informed the umpires that the score-board was wrong and one more run was required.

England were never likely to excel in the one-day phase of the tour, having chosen a team that blatantly ignored it, but Michael Atherton, the captain, firmly maintains that international cricketers should be equipped to play both forms of the game. He is presently having some difficulty persuading his charges that they can play either.

Fletcher, feeling to keep his strongest batting in check, was nevertheless forthright in his criticism last night: "I have spoken to the players already."

he explained. "There is a deathly hush in the dressing-room. They are all sitting there feeling ashamed and, as an international team, so they should. The Academy boys played well, but we were poor on both days. You can't say the lads weren't trying. They just weren't good enough."

Even to veterans of too many England calamities, this was a particularly gruesome vintage. For seasoned players, defeat is hardest to take when inflicted by raw, uncynical youth and here was a side of teens and twenties, only five of whom had played any first-class cricket, issuing a tutorial to their elders and supposed betters on how to play the one-day game.

Four years ago, when England were heading for the same distressing fate in Ashes and World Series affairs as can be forecast for them now, they played two corresponding games. The Academy that year included Shane Warne and Damien Martyn, but they failed to score 100 on either day and England won both games disdainfully. If this weekend is a gauge of how far the team has regressed, it will not be pleasant being English in Australia for the next two months.

The two weekend games, staged at the atmospheric North Sydney club ground, down the years, by Barnes, Bradman, McCabe, Miller and O'Reilly, followed parallel courses. England, batting first, twice lost a wicket first ball, were each time rescued



Graham Gooch watches as things get out of hand for England yesterday. Photograph: Graham Morris

by two worthy innings, but still fell below par. They then failed to defend their totals through some wayward bowling and comically inept fielding against batting that was audacious, alert and athletic.

On Saturday, it was Mike Gatting who was out first ball. Yesterday, it was Alec Stewart, run out without facing. Graeme Hick and Graham Thorpe, two batsmen who continue to rise above the mediocrity, shared a stand of 137 in the first game and, yesterday, Atherton and Gatting put on 102 for the third wicket. This, however, was a true pitch and the boundaries were short. By

making only 78 from the last 17 overs, England left themselves 30 runs short.

It scarcely mattered when they began bowling so shoddily that 300 would not have been safe. Ryan Campbell, a West Australian still to play in the Shield side, batted with a comparably uninhibited joy to Michael Slater, pulling DeFreitas for one six and dropping on one knee to square-drive Malcolm in astonishing style for another. He and his partner, Nathan Aspinall, punished anything loose — and there was plenty — and ran so urgently that runs came at seven an over. Atherton stopped play for frequent con-

ferences — significantly with Gooch and Rhodes — while Stewart waved his arms and Gatting clapped his hands. It bore all the hallmarks of cricketing farce and when Angus Fraser, having caught Campbell to gain England breathing-space, dropped Brad Hodge before he had scored, the result had been clearly signposted.

England did take four wickets for 45 in 11 acceptable overs and Fraser did bowl a second spell that indicated he can only improve the attack, but Hodge remained and, once joined by the Academy coach Rodney Marsh's son, Daniel, he demonstrated how he scored al-

most 1,000 runs in his debut season for Victoria.

Hodge finished unbeaten on 96 and Marsh on 46. Both had scored at a run a ball. In the park behind the grandstand, an evangelical rally was in full swing, the gathering lustily chorusing "Glory, Glory Hallelujah". For England's predicament, it was as inappropriate an anthem as could be imagined.

There was a rather closer finish in Adelaide and the victory of the Kangaroos over the Cockatoos, as the A-team have now been labelled, disappointed a capacity crowd more than it did England. As the senior Australian side has now won four out of four to book a place in the World Series finals, the other qualifier will be either England or Australia A.

They meet for the first time tomorrow, in Melbourne, and England may be without Darren Gough, who has tweaked a hamstring, as well as John Crawley, whose calf muscle remains a problem. "It is a critical game," admitted Fletcher, "but then they all are now."

Other scoreboards, page 32

#### SATURDAY'S DETAILS

ENGLAND	
M W Gatting b Hammy	0
A J Stewart c Campbell b Hammy	9
G A Hick c Hodge b Hammy	118
G P Thorpe c and b Marsh	62
C White not out	2
S J Rhodes not out	5
Extras (b 2, lb 2, w 3, nb 2)	15
Total (4 wickets, 50 overs)	231
P A J DeFreitas, S D Udell, A R C Fraser, P C R Tunnell and D E Malcolm did not bat.	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-18, 3-155, 4-221.	
BOWLING: Hammy 10-1-44-3; Swan 10-2-41-0; Jurgensen 5-0-30-0; Harvey 10-1-42-0; Marsh 10-0-45-1; Baker 5-0-25-0.	

#### YESTERDAY'S DETAILS

ENGLAND	
A J Stewart not out	0
M A Atherton c Swain b Baker	96
G A Gooch b b Jurgensen	24
M W Gatting c Marsh b Harvey	62
G A Hick b Harvey	16
C White c Atherton b Harvey	20
S J Rhodes c Atherton b Hammy	4
P A J DeFreitas not out	7
S D Udell not out	0
Scores (b 10, lb 7, w 7)	17
Total (7 wickets, 50 overs)	266
A R C Fraser and D E Malcolm did not bat.	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-65, 3-167, 4-192, 5-226, 6-234, 7-239.	
BOWLING: Malcolm 7-0-40-0; DeFreitas 4-0-31-0; Fraser 10-0-48-1; Udell 7-0-43-0; White 7-0-32-2; Hick 8-1-0-1-1; Gooch 2-0-25-0.	
Umpires: I G Jackson and S Tait.	

AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY	
M W Gatting b Hammy	0
A J Stewart c Swain b Baker	96
G A Gooch b b Jurgensen	24
M W Gatting c Marsh b Harvey	62
G A Hick b Harvey	16
C White c Atherton b Harvey	20
S J Rhodes c Atherton b Hammy	4
P A J DeFreitas not out	7
S D Udell not out	0
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Umpires: I G Jackson and S Tait.	

#### SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm)	Conditions	Runs to resort	Weather (°F/°C)	Last snow
L	U	Piste	Off/p		
AUSTRIA					
Sölden	0	190 good	varied closed	cloud	3 10/12
		(Only Rettenbach and Tiefenbach glaciers open)			
St Anton	0	50 heavy	closed closed	cloud	0 11/12
		(Recent snowfalls enabling resort to slowly open)			
CANADA					
Lake Louise	70	100 good	varied good	cloud	-8 10/12
		(Excellent skiing with all lifts open)			
Whistler	55	155 good	powder good	cloud	-3 10/12
		(Good skiing, virtually all lifts and runs open)			
FRANCE					
Tignes	30	75 good	varied fair	fine	2 10/12
		(Good skiing available; some rocks, still mild)			
Val d'Isère	20	75 good	varied closed	sun	3 10/12
		(Good skiing on Solaise, Bellevue and Le Fornet)			
ITALY					
Cortina	10	50 fair	varied closed	fair	3 9/12
		(Improved conditions with recent fresh snow)			
SWITZERLAND					
Davos	0	40 fair	powder closed	cloud	2 9/12
		(Fresh snow on varied bases; 12 of 36 lifts open)			
Zermatt	5	100 fair	varied closed	fair	2 9/12
		(Best skiing on Klein Matterhorn)			
UNITED STATES					
C Butte	80	130 good	varied good	fine	-3 9/12
		(Excellent skiing on packed powder)			
Mammoth	165	210 good	varied good	fine	-7 7/12
		(All but three lifts open; excellent skiing)			
Vail	60	75 good	varied good	fair	-5 9/12
		(Very good skiing with most of the resort open)			

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

## Street takes a peek at downhill fame

FROM GRAHAM DUFFILL IN LAKE LOUISE, CANADA

PICABO STREET deserves to become a skiing celebrity just as much as women's skiing needs a celebrity, and everything you hear in advance of meeting her smacks of American marketing at its most assertive.

Her name — pronounced peekaboo — sticks with all its apparent silliness. She sports long brown hair tied back in a pigtail, has a charming open manner and a mission to bring happiness to the world. Street allegedly cried when Kate Pace, the Canadian No 1, fell in the first training run for the Lake Louise downhill at the weekend. She wants to set up children's ski schools when she retires and wants to be a friend to every other racer and help every team to get along.

Then you see her ski 115kph down the course here to take first place in the downhill on Friday. Her great rival, Hilary Lindh, from Alaska, came second, 0.7sec behind.

Then, on Saturday, you see her finish 1.14sec behind

Lindh, who added a second World Cup win this season and completed an American hat-trick of downhill victories. For the American television and press, it could not have been better. The two girls are known to dislike each other; one wins the first day, the other wins the next.

After her victory, Lindh, 26, said: "Picabo is a personality and she is willing to talk to a lot of people and is willing to be animated and interesting."

Downstairs in the lobby, after Sports Illustrated magazine spent 20 minutes snapping both women side by side in their catsuits in minus-15°C, Lindh, 5ft 9in and 165lb, was shimmering. "My part of Alaska is quite mild," she said. "I've been freezing here."

Street, 5ft 7in and 155lb, pointed happily at what is nearly a double chin and said: "I've got an extra layer of fat to keep me warm."

A ski racer who runs, cycles, trains with weights every day, carrying fat? "Yes, most women have 24 per cent of their body weight as fat and I have 15 and Hilary has 11. Some get too thin," Street said.

Some people believe the women's circuit is dominated by bulks with moustaches and bags of steroids, but most are slim, of average size and gymnast rather than body-builder in size.

There is every reason why women's ski racing should take off, especially with characters such as Street and Lindh leading the way.

Katja Seizinger, of Germany, and Chantal Bourdissen, of Switzerland, should both feature regularly in the top ten. Canada has a promising 18-year-old,

Melanie Turgeon, who has raced only three World Cup events in her life and has finished in the top ten each time.

Despite three American downhill victories thus far, the women's racing was not televised in the United States. "They are not interested in women's racing," Lindh said tersely.

Should the women's circuit try to throw in bigger jumps and become more dramatic to make it better television?

"We try to emulate the men's style because they ski powerfully and cleanly, but we still ski like women. I don't think there is a woman who wants to race Kitzbühel or Wengen." Street said. "Perhaps we could have some jumps that are bigger when it is safe, but it is when people see the clock and see that we are skiing at 125 [kph] that it hits them."

"I never think about competing against the other racers," she added. "I am merely testing myself against the mountain."



Street: vivacious

## Disabled player in controversial ruling

IAN BLACKMORE, 33, a bank manager from Ivybridge, who plays bowls in a wheelchair, was denied access to the Plymouth Civil Service indoor bowls club to compete in the second round of the Manchester Unity national indoor triples championship on Saturday when the home club invoked fire regulations that, according to the fire service, do not exist (David Rhys Jones writes).

"We are not in the business of banning disabled competitors," the Southern Region's divisional officer, Bert Jones, said. "Please note, due to fire regulations, no wheelchairs are allowed upstairs or downstairs."

Blackmore watched his Plymouth Mayflower teammates at a distance from another area of the club as, forced to field a substitute, they sank to a heavy defeat.

## Ortlieb starts at speed

SKIING: The former Olympic downhill champion, Patrick Ortlieb, won the opening speed event of the men's Alpine World Cup season yesterday. Ortlieb, of Austria, produced a faultless run in a super-giant slalom race in Tignes, France, to win in 1min 22.5sec. Tommy Moe, of the United States, was second and Luc Alphand, of France, third.

There was disappointment, however, for the holder of the World Cup overall championship, Kjetil Andre Aasmund, of Norway, and his main rival, Marc Girardelli, of Luxembourg, who both finished out of the top ten. Both are hoping to do better in a slalom race at Sestriere in Italy today, where Alberto Tomba will be the favourite. Tomba, of Italy, leads the overall standings with 150 points.

## Chavez keeps his title

BOXING: Julio César Chavez, right, of Mexico, retained his World Boxing Council super-lightweight title by stopping Tony Lopez, of the United States, in the tenth round in Monterrey on Saturday. The referee, Edouard Llanusa, called doctor Romeo Garcia Benavides to check cuts around Lopez's eyes before the scheduled 12-round fight was stopped.



## Panthers stretch lead

ICE HOCKEY: Nottingham Panthers returned to form by beating Whitley Warriors 14-2 on Saturday to stretch their lead at the top of the premier division to seven points. Durham Wasps continued their climb away from the relegation zone with a 4-3 win over the bottom club, Bracknell Bees, and Humberside Hawks beating the well-organised Peterborough Pirates 7-5.

## Tait keeps Dixon at bay

EQUESTRIANISM: Blyth Tait, of New Zealand, the former world three day event champion, has won the Land Rover FEI world rider rankings for the second time in three years after finishing runner-up in the Auckland three day event yesterday. Karen Dixon, of Britain, who made a last-ditch attempt to overtake Tait by flying out to Auckland to compete on a borrowed horse, finished second.

## Chinese breakthrough

FIGURE SKATING: Chen Lu, right, of China, flawless in her triple jumps, won the women's title yesterday in the NHK Cup figure skating competition in Morioka, Japan. Chen, 17, the first Chinese skater to win the trophy, beat Surya Bonaly, of France, who was bidding for her third consecutive win. The men's title went to Todd Eldredge, of the United States.



## Fisher's career-best

EQUESTRIANISM: James Fisher, of Britain, achieved the best victory of his career to date when he won the Volvo World Cup show jumping qualifier in Geneva with the 11-year-old Irish-bred mare, Bowriver Queen, after a seven-horse jump-off. Fisher set an impressive time of 44.4sec and finished almost four seconds ahead of Beat Müllli, of Switzerland, on Joyride, who was second.

## Rolph swims to double

SWIMMING: Susan Rolph completed a freestyle double at the Optrex national winter championships in Sheffield yesterday when she added the 50 metres title to the 100 metres title she won on Friday. Rolph, 16, a Commonwealth gold medal-winner from Newcastle, finished 0.43sec ahead of Martina Moravcova, of the Czech Republic, and 0.03sec outside her own British record.

## THE LONDON MARATHON

### Win a weekend in the Lake District

The Times, in association with the Nutsweet London Marathon, is offering two readers and their partners the opportunity to win free places on our exclusive training weekend in the Lake District from January 13 to 15.

To win, simply tell us who won the first London Marathon, in both the men's and women's race. Send your answers on a postcard to: The Times Marathon Competition, Ashurst Court, London EC6B 8NG to arrive no later than December 31. Normal Times newspaper competition rules apply.

Runners will find the training ideal preparation for the 1995 race on April 2. The weekend will be hosted by Chris Brasher, the founder of the London Marathon, and John Bryant, deputy editor of The Times.

As with the highly successful weekend in the New Forest in November, this will be aimed at people of all abilities, with the training runs carried out in several groups of differing standards.

The base will be the Skelwith Bridge Hotel in Ambleside. Members of the local running club, Ambleside AC, will be guiding the separate groups and there will be a physiotherapist present to help with any injuries. The weekend will begin with everyone meeting for dinner on the Friday evening and end after the buffet lunch on the Sunday. When you are not running, there will be plenty of time to ask questions about your own training and the marathon itself.

The cost of the weekend is £90, which includes your accommodation, all meals and transport within the Lake District. Apply by sending your name and address, a daytime phone number, details of your running background and a cheque for £90 payable to London Marathon Ltd. to: The Nutsweet London Marathon, Training Weekend, PO Box 1234, London SE1 8RZ.

Results, page 32



Champion forced to produce simply his best to keep brave Wharton at bay

# Eubank's sparkle fails to resolve old doubts



Srikumar Sen puts into perspective a champion's points victory in the WBO title contest

Chris Eubank is still on course to collect his £10 million from Sky Television. After beating Henry Wharton, of York, on points for the World Boxing Organisation (WBO) super-middleweight title, he has four more contests to go, but should have no trouble lasting the distance against selected opponents.

For once, on Saturday, the result of a Eubank bout was not controversial. He outpointed Wharton clearly. The judges gave it to the champion unanimously — 118-112 (8-2), 116-112 (8-4) and 114-113 (7-6) — though this last score, of a British judge, Paul Thomas, was difficult to understand as the rounds added up to 13 instead of 12. Clearly, Thomas scored it a close fight. My own scoring was 6-4 and two even.

For the last three rounds, he was the old, depressing Eubank, doing little or nothing, getting on his bike and whizzing round the ring with Wharton in pursuit — but, in the earlier rounds, he piled up the points by throwing more punches than he has done in his whole career and, when he had Wharton on the back foot, he unleashed stinging combinations, another departure from his usual drab offering. So, he looked tremendous and kept his unbeaten record intact, but before getting too carried away and thinking the old Eubank is alive and well, it has to be said that he looked good because Wharton's face-first style suited his counter-punching and the challenger fought with the handicap of a closed left eye from the second round.

As a result of the eye injury, which soon looked like a small animal run over on the road, Wharton was not only unable

to see the right hand coming but was also unable to judge distances. This made him miss with his punches and left him within easy reach of sharp, countering jabs. "I was blind from the second round," Wharton said.

As Wharton lunged desperately, round after round, Eubank did much as he pleased, sending in lefts and rights. In the ninth, as he unleashed a short and ferocious combination that had Wharton reeling backwards onto the ropes, the champion looked like a man capable of beating Roy Jones, the highly-rated International Boxing Federation champion, and the former champion, James Toney, on the same night.

After that, however, instead of finishing like a champion, he ran for cover. Messrs Jones and Toney can take consolation from the knowledge that Eubank cannot go the full 12 rounds fighting.

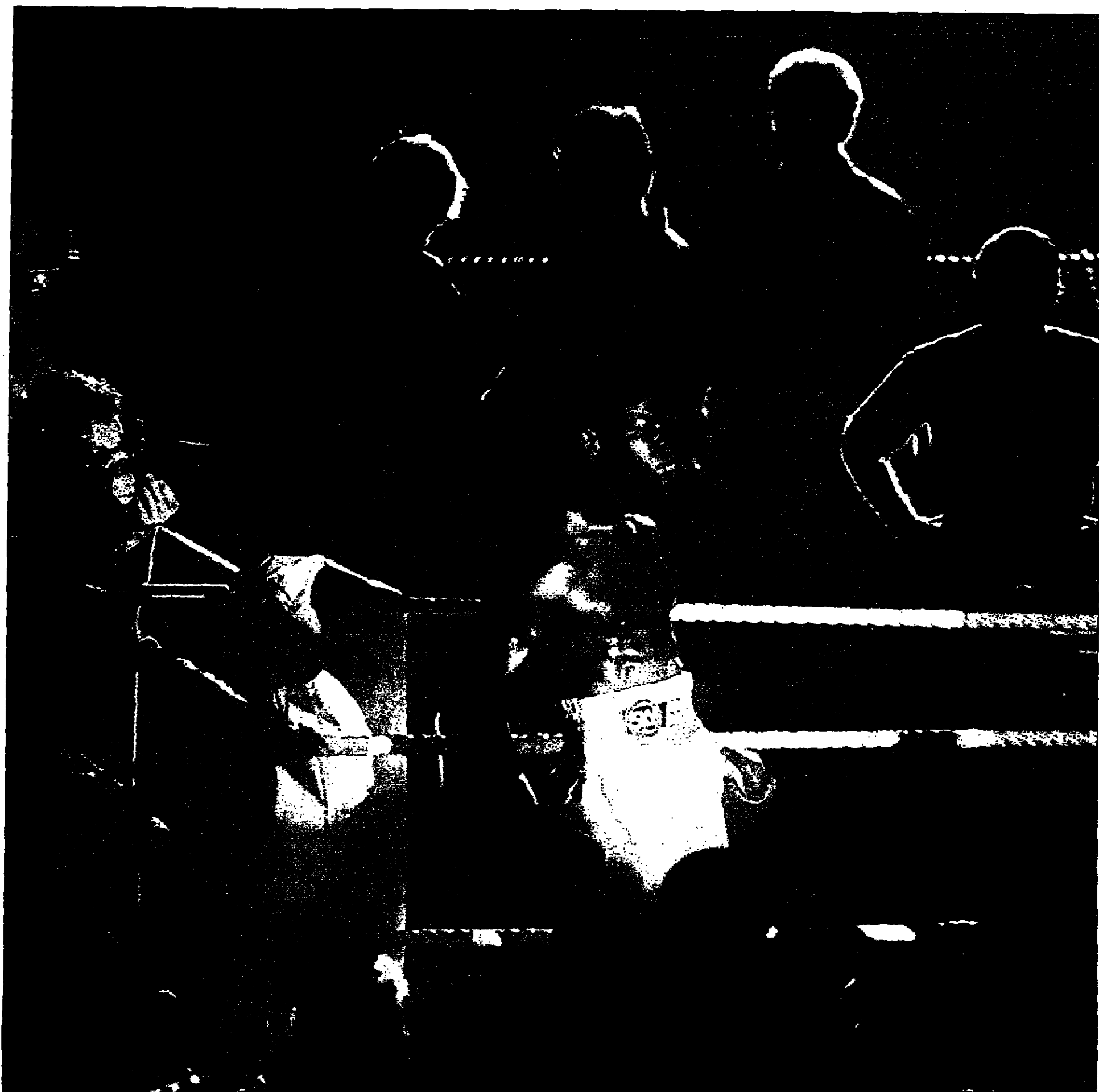
Barry Hearn, Eubank's promoter, said he was having talks with the Jones camp, but it seems that Eubank has no intention of putting his £10 million at risk by taking on anyone who can box and does not walk onto his punches.

"This [Wharton] type of fighter does not give me problems," Eubank said. "I get problems from fighters who are strategic fighters." Later, though, he admitted: "That was a very hard fight. I've got bruised more than I usually do."

Until he steps up from domestic level, it will not be possible to evaluate Eubank's true position in the world. That is unlikely to happen as he has never said he wants to be the best in the world. "I am quite satisfied with being one of the best in the world," Eubank said. "I've always said that the man who seeks glory ends up bitter. If I see a way of beating the man and negotiations are right, I will fight the man [Jones]."

Eubank's next bout will be against Ray Close, of Northern Ireland, in Belfast in February. It will be the third meeting with the Irishman. Two other possible returns remain: Benn — again — and Wharton. Hearn wants to put on a return with Wharton in Leeds.

"Henry made the fight tonight," Hearn said, despite Eubank's showmanship — including an entry to the arena from the roof of Manchester's G-Mex Centre in a rocket. "We've only got four fights before Eubank retires — we want them as meaningful as ever."



Ring of bright light: Eubank strikes a pose as he prepares to leap the ropes into the ring at Manchester for his super-middleweight title contest. Photograph: Ian Stewart

## Showman shines under television's harsh lights

For nearly an hour and a half it looked as if Sky Sports' big night was going to go horribly wrong. The much vaunted world welterweight title bout between Eubank and Wharton was delayed by an accidental clash of heads. Then Scott Welch and Michael Murray duly confirmed the distinctly unexciting state of British heavyweight boxing. And now Henry Wharton, the man we had all come to see, was lost in clouds of dry ice.

Mars: The Bringer of War played on, but there was still no sign of Yorkshire's finest. Eventually the Sky cameraman took pity, took a deep breath and went in to find him. Looking back, it was an omen that it was not going to be Wharton's night.

But from the first stirring note of Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet, it was definitely

Chris Eubank's. As he made his outrageous, airborne entrance, the entire evening changed gear. As Glenn McCrory, Sky's ringside expert, put it: "There's a lot of fighters I know that have needed cranes to leave the ring, but not many that got one to bring them in."

Eubank thrives on his popularity and so do his television ratings. Statistics prepared by David Graham & Associates, the audience research group, remind us that Eubank versus Benn was the top-rated sports event of 1993 with an ITV audience of more than 16 million. This year, the World Cup and Torvill and Dean may have knocked him off the top spots, but before Sky came along with its multimillion-pound deal, his fights against Rochigiani and Close still attracted audiences of around 12 million. In short,



MATTHEW BOND  
TV ACTION REPLAY

evidence that Eubank is once again matching showmanship with ringcraft is very good news for Sky, now halfway through the eight-fight deal.

With the encounter on Saturday undoubtedly proving the most exciting fight on satellite since Lewis against Bruno and possibly even Bruno versus Tyson, its ratings will be awaited with interest.

The channel certainly invested heavily in the technical coverage, with 12 cameras at the G-Mex centre, including a ring-side camera providing

"super slo-mo" replays. Produced by a camera that shoots twice as many frames per second as normal, Super Slo-mo replays are a revelation.

Whether they are a revelation, the boxing authorities should welcome another matter. It is quite true that every bead of sweat is captured as they explode off the boxer's head, but so too is every drop of blood, every sickening angle of the head as punches rain upon it. It is not so much skill that is revealed, as savagery.

The one undoubted draw-

back that replays, Super Slo-mo or otherwise have, is that they can completely fill the break between rounds, leaving no time to assess the condition of the boxers. It is to Sky's credit, that as Wharton's left eye became critical, inter-round ad breaks were cut and replays reduced.

In the commentary seat was an impressively impartial Ian Darke, who did a splendid job of not getting carried away by the occasion and made his own reservations about Eubank's unbeaten record abundantly clear. In 43 fights he pointed out, Eubank had not left the ring a beaten man — "well, not according to the judges". Amid the hype of Eubank's entrance, Darke stressed that the fight had "the potential to be a great classic — I say the potential". For once Eubank did not let him down.

With the G-Mex Centre

packed with Wharton followers, it was appropriate that the last great hope of the north, Glenn McCrory, was with Darke at ringside. McCrory's presence, with Eubank in the ring and Nicky Piper in the presentation box, gave us that boxing rarity — three articulate fighters in one arena.

If the fight was a classic, so too was the post-fight interview. Darke struggled manfully but Eubank was at his surreal best. "Let me get this message over to the West Pier trustees," said Brighton's finest in response to a question about his opponent. "I can fix the pier — give me a chance and I can make that beautiful monument stand." Darke fared no better with his follow-up. "Let me just send my congratulations to Moss-side, for an eight months cease-fire. This is good stuff." The showman was on song.

Swede enjoys lucrative success in Grand Slam Cup after Davis Cup triumph

## Larsson mines rich vein with victory over Sampras

FROM STUART JONES  
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT  
IN MUNICH

MAGNUS Larsson, the winner of the Grand Slam Cup, collected a cheque that virtually doubled the prize-money he had earned during the rest of his largely undistinguished career. For beating Pete Sampras in a four-set final yesterday, the 24-year-old Swede received \$1,500,000 (about £960,000).

Before the official prize-giving ceremony could be conducted, the Olympiahalle was transformed into a theatrical stage. The ensuing play, featuring Christmas carols, reminded the crowd and the television audience that the event is designed to be more than a financial bonanza for already wealthy players.

Since the inaugural tournament in 1990, the Grand Slam Development Fund has contributed \$2 million a year to ailing children and to cultivating the game in the Third World. The intentions are laudable and would be beyond criticism if the donations were

not so disproportionate. The 16 qualifiers, who would not be here unless they had picked up substantial rewards for their performances in the four grand slam championships, share a purse of \$6 million. Even the two substitutes receive \$50,000 without needing to hit a ball.

Larsson, who received an invitation to join the field principally because he reached the semi-final of the French Open, has won a mere five tournaments in his life. None of them has been significant. Attached to his sixth title is a fortune.

He had dismissed the meaning of it before taking less than three hours to subdue the tired top seed. After dismissing Todd Martin in straight sets on Saturday, he appreciated that his feat in Moscow, where he won the Davis Cup for Sweden the previous weekend, was far more prestigious.

"The Davis Cup will be in people's heads much longer than this tournament," he said. "You play for free for your country, but there is so much money here that you

cannot ignore it." Without the financial rewards, though, would the leading players bother to compete?

Andre Agassi has been one of those to complain that there is no prolonged break during the season. Within a couple of weeks, he and his colleagues will be starting their preparations for the Australian Open, which begins in Melbourne in the middle of next month.

Nevertheless, Michael Stich was the only qualifier to have declined the invitation to attend. Like Jim Courier the

previous year, he was not lured by the extravagant riches to be gained and, curiously, the main prize has been claimed more often than not by a lesser light.

Apart from Sampras, in the inaugural event, no holder of a grand slam title has been crowned here. Moreover, the winner has invariably gone on to spend the following year in comparative obscurity and impoverishment.

Sampras, David Wheaton, in 1991, and Petr Korda, in 1993, all failed subsequently to

qualify to defend the trophy. Only Stich has managed to break the ominous pattern and he, like Larsson, arrived as a member of the triumphant Davis Cup team. He, too, had struck a rich vein of form.

Since winning the indoor title at Toulouse a couple of months ago, Larsson has been defeated only by Sampras, twice, and by Goran Ivanisevic. The Croatian blasted 41 aces, the highest total in any match for 18 years, in a losing cause on Saturday.

Sampras defended himself against the unremitting fusillade of missiles for almost three and a half hours before going through 10-8 in the fifth set. The effort clearly took its toll, but his compensation is to complete the most prosperous year in the history of tennis.

In the last month alone, he has banked more than \$3 million. The lavish proceeds are for winning the ATP Tour championship final in Frankfurt and, as well as the runners-up prize of \$750,000 here, a bonus of \$250,000 for each of his two grand slam

titles at the Australian Open and Wimbledon. He might have earned even more had he taken the tie-break in the third set. The turning point was reached after he had taken only six points off Larsson's potent serve in the first set and broken in the third game of the second set, with the assistance of the Swede's first double fault, to level the match.

Larsson re-established his lead by taking the crucial tie-break 7-5. With a couple of backhands and a lob, all of which landed on the line, and a running forehand, he broke Sampras in the fourth set. The world No 1 capitulated mentally and physically, yielding four successive games, and a final dominated by penetrating serves (Larsson fired 32 aces) was stirred only amid the last rites.

Sampras rallied when facing the prospect of imminent defeat. Apparently caring to hit only outright winners, he pulled himself back into contention but the respite was temporary. He went down 7-6, 4-6, 7-6, 6-4.



Sampras: exhausted



Larsson: potent serve

## Chester time vital win to perfection

BY NICHOLAS HARLING

IT WAS perhaps typical of Chester Jets that having knocked out London Towers for the past two seasons, they should then surpass the achievement of the Towers when the basketball National Cup began in earnest at the weekend.

While the Towers were removing the holders, Worthing Bears, from the competition in the fourth round, Chester, struggling one from bottom of the Budweiser League, were overcoming a Manchester Giants squad that had recently hammered them twice in the 7-Up Trophy.

Chester's 78-76 win came after they had trailed 74-67 with three minutes left, having already had their American Ed Snead fouled out. Five successive points from Snead's compatriot, Binky Johnson, reduced the gap to two points before Panjle Grainger gave Manchester more breathing space.

Baskets from Alan Bannister and Dave Gardner brought the Jets level before Gardner clinched the tie with

a basket, which took him to 28 points, as the buzzer sounded.

London's 94-82 success at Worthing came after the Bears had led 48-46 at the interval, thanks chiefly to their player-coach, Alan Cunningham (28 points). His team was wasswamped by a 27-7 spurt after the break, inspired by Danny Lewis, whose 34 points included eight three-pointers, and Tony Windless and Joel Moore who did not feature in the starting five.

Leicester City Riders and Doncaster Panthers were almost on the receiving end of upsets as well. Both were taken to overtime by supposedly inferior opponents. Dave Harris sank two free throws four seconds from the end of regular time to help the Riders against Coventry Crusaders, the first division club, who eventually succumbed 83-79.

With 42 points on his return from injury, Russ Saunders threatened to take Sunderland Scorpions through on his own before the Panthers prevailed 99-94 against the Budweiser League's bottom club.

# Burns plans break with Celtic's traditions

Rain stopped crisis. A waterlogged pitch prevented Celtic playing Heart of Midlothian on Saturday and may have deferred a débâcle. A draw or a defeat in their next match would set a club record of 11 consecutive League matches without a victory. Scottish football's new two-week winter shutdown, which has now begun, seems like an act of providence.

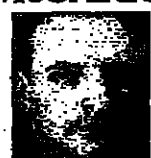
The Celtic players and management find that the sport's legislators have programmed a handy interlude for soul-searching, if not penance. A small percentage of the wretchedness can be written off as ill-luck. Statistics are born of chance and the team was close to checking the misery in the ninth game of the sequence, when the referee awarded Hibernian an indulgent penalty for the equaliser.

Yet it seems apt that Celtic

are on the verge of a piece of a malign history. The supporters monitor the growing series of failures as if it was an index of their own despondency. Their side is in a switchback season for, curiously enough, it set off — under Tommy Burns's new management — by avoiding defeat in the first 11 matches. Two contradictory sets of results might suggest a team with a split personality. Instead, though, it reflects a lurch into reality.

On arrival in July, Burns portrayed his squad as talented individuals who had been diminished by criticism. With an infusion of his faith in them, all would be well. Was Burns kidding himself, or only the players? It is likely that he was just hoping to trick the team to a trophy. It nearly worked, with Celtic reaching the Coca-Cola Cup final. Defeat by Raith Rovers, however,

KEVIN MCCARRA



Scottish commentary

marked the end of the managerial confidence trick. That embarrassment joined a long list of recent fiascos. It would have been impossible for Burns to continue denying that he is stuck with a bunch of serial losers. This is the truth he was employed to tackle. Burns was bound to face it eventually, although a victory would have postponed the confrontation a while.

Burns now has to hang onto the supporters and ditch the players. Team selection is a form of code and the introduction into the squad of a batch of youngsters who have not so far shown any extraordinary gifts is his way of signalling a readiness for change. Finding the right newcomers will be much more taxing. Before Christmas, he will travel to study the youth development programmes of Ajax and Auxerre, intent on finding a model that Celtic can copy. Of more pressing importance, however, is the list of half a dozen possible signings he intends to watch while on the Continent. His team requires at least that many replacements.

Management is a course of self-instruction and Burns's desire to consider European players marks a change in policy. On taking up his post,

he spoke with fervour of the need for men steeped in Celtic's traditions. These days, Burns would prefer people without that emotional baggage. He is entitled to a change of heart. Indeed, it is always more alarming to observe a manager who is dogged and wrong. His shopping expedition implies that some money is available, despite the need for £24 million of spending on a stadium, but Burns cannot afford a mistake. His judgment is on trial.

Bargains are still to be found. Earlier this season, Kilmarnock bought Neil Whitworth from Manchester United for just £100,000. On Saturday, the mighty centre half often kept Rangers at bay, restricting the visitors to a 2-1 win. The result still extended their lead at the top of the table to seven points, since Motherwell lost at home to Aberdeen.

It is a long time since Celtic had players capable of contesting a championship. In a newspaper article yesterday, there were tame revelations by the former Scotland striker, Frank McAvennie, that he used cocaine while with West Ham United in the Eighties. Given his hedonistic image, there might have been a greater shock if he had admitted a preference for the early night with a mug of Ovaltine and an improving book.

So far as Celtic supporters are concerned, McAvennie's re-emergence on a front page triggered a pang of nostalgia, rather than a wave of outrage. He was, from late 1987 to early 1989, the last truly formidable forward Celtic possessed. Instead of troubling over the admissions, supporters simply crave the entirely legal high that McAvennie used to give them.

## Freedman completes another black day for Ayre

Barnet..... 3  
Scarborough..... 1

By OLIVER HOLT

WITH a moustache like Stalin's and a face from a D.H. Lawrence novel, Billy Ayre, the Scarborough manager, looked blacker than ever when he emerged into the gloom of a deserted Underhill on Saturday evening. Some of his players struggled with a trunk of kit as he made his parting shot. "Somebody's going to get it in the morning," he said.

By then, the small knot of Scarborough supporters that had gathered behind one goal had departed for their minivan. They had fought to unfurl a huge St George's flag in the wind before the game. Along the bottom, it bore the legend: "No battle, no victory." Whether it was meant as an indictment of the team or a sign of a touching faith that things will get better was not clear.

Scarborough have not won a game in the Endleigh Insurance League third division for nearly three months. They are rooted firmly to the bottom of the table now, as far down as you can get without slipping into the Vauxhall Conference.

In fleeing moments of the first half against a Barnet team that is vying for promotion, it looked as though they might end their losing spell. White, their centre forward, missed two good chances and a couple of goalmouth scrambles that could have fallen kindly went to Barnet feet instead.

But in the second half, the visitors fell apart. A wildly mistimed lunge from Meyer in the 57th minute felled Newton inside the box and Wilson converted the penalty with aplomb. Scarborough wilted and Barnet ran wild. Cooper heading home a chip from Hoddle and Freedman finishing things off with the best goal of the afternoon, a curling left-foot shot from 25 yards with ten minutes left.

White, who had earlier made such a hash of an attempt at a drag-back turn that it completely fooled his marker, stole a consolation goal with a minute to go. There was something rather poignant about the way he dashed to retrieve the ball, as if there was still a chance of salvaging the game.

"The public's perception of this match is going to be clouded by the scoreline," Ayre, whose stoicism and courtesy in the face of pressure draws admiration from all, said afterwards. "We have committed suicide again. How many times have we created openings for the opposition this season? I have lost count, but we have done it again today."

"It is up to me to get the mental toughness back in our players. This is a novel position for me to be in, stuck at the bottom of the league. I am tough enough to take all the abuse and the players will have to be too." No battle, no victory.

BARNET (4-3-3): P Newell — M Newton, A Walker, L Pinnus, D McDonald — C Hooper, P Wilson, P Scott — G McMahon, D Freedman, M Cooper.  
SCARBOROUGH (5-3-2): S Ford — D Kewes, A Meyer, G Swann, M Wells — T Rodwell, S Charles, D Aulsebrook (sub: J Blackstone, 88min) — J White, B Smith.  
Referee: J Holbrook.

## Wycombe show why O'Neill is content to stay put

Wycombe Wanderers..... 2  
Huddersfield Town..... 1

By MEL WEBB

A PULSATING game that can rarely have been bettered in the Endleigh Insurance League second division this season brought a courageously-earned victory for ten-man Wycombe and pushed them into third place in the table. Is it any wonder that Martin O'Neill, their manager, continues to spurn the blandishments of other, bigger clubs?

The eloquent and passionate O'Neill is regarded by the supporters at Adams Park with something close to hero-worship. The spirit shown by his depleted side on Saturday was remarkable to behold and made it easier to comprehend why, in the last 12 months, O'Neill has turned down job offers from Nottingham Forest and Leicester City.

Yet the question still lingers. Why would such an obviously talented man reject the chance to make one mighty bound into FA Carling Premiership football and stick, instead, to Wycombe, upwardly mobile though they are? There can be but two reasons: one, he believes that progression to higher things is something that can be achieved for Wycombe; and two, that his exalted status at the club has induced a feel-good factor in O'Neill that has made him unwilling to take a chance on mixing it with the big boys.

It would be understandable if the second was the decisive one. His popularity means that his is a comfortable billet at the Buckinghamshire club. His words and deeds in and after this game, though, leave an abiding feeling that if O'Neill lacks anything, it is certainly not ambition.

"Jack Charlton once said that five years at a club was enough, but we've continued to make progress all the time I've been here and it certainly doesn't feel like five years," he said. "While we keep going from league to league, that is fantastic. It keeps you going and that's one of the main reasons for staying. I think the future is bright here and I want to be a part of it."

If the way O'Neill's side tackled the match is any indication, he has made the right decision. Huddersfield, their fellow promotion-chasers, took the lead through Jepson in the first half and must have been expecting more when Patterson, a £40,000 signing for Wycombe in midweek, was sent off on the stroke of half-time for a second bookable offence.

Yet Wycombe were not deterred; in fact, they took the fight to their opponents. They equalised when Booth put the ball into his own net and, with five minutes left, Garner took advantage of a slumbering defence to score the winner.

Wycombe have never been lower than sixth place in any league under O'Neill's stewardship and he feels that he might be on the verge of something remarkable with them. He might be right.

WYCOMBE WANDERERS (4-4-2): P Hyde — J O'Sullivan, E Evans, M Crossley, S Brown, S Thompson, D Carroll, K Ryan, G Pickering — A Harrington (sub: L Tuntak, 88min), S Garner.  
HUDDERSFIELD TOWN (4-3-3): S Francis — S Taylor, K Garner, G Swann, M Wells — T Rodwell, S Charles, D Aulsebrook (sub: J Blackstone, 88min) — J White, B Smith.  
Referee: J Harkley (sub: P Taylor, 30).



Klinsmann acclaims the goal that helped Tottenham Hotspur come from behind to defeat Sheffield Wednesday at White Hart Lane. Photograph: Andre Camara

# Klinsmann spices Sugar's triumph

Tottenham Hotspur..... 3  
Sheffield Wednesday..... 1

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

GERRY FRANCIS, the Tottenham Hotspur manager, was asked if Jürgen Klinsmann, given the opportunity, would grace Wembley. "Yes, he would," Francis replied, without a moment's hesitation. "Unfortunately, he wouldn't be on our side." No, not playing for Germany against England, he was chided, but in an FA Cup final. "Oh yes, of course. We've only been back in the competition a day. I'd forgotten that."

At White Hart Lane on Saturday, it still stretched the imagination to grasp that Tottenham's season had been handed fresh impetus. In the match programme, the FA Carling Premiership table still bore the postscript: "Tottenham to have six points deducted at the end of the season." In

the fixture list, the FA Cup third-round tie against Aldershot on January 7 still carried the warning: "To be advised."

Yet, 23 hours earlier, with Christmas looming, the three wise men of the independent arbitration panel had arrived from afar bearing gold, frankincense and myrrh. No FA Cup ban, no six-point penalty, no problem. The big, bad Football Association, its authority publicly ridiculed after five months of legal posturing, had been overruled.

"We're back in business," the public address announcer screeched, as Alan Sugar, the Tottenham chairman, received a rousing pre-match reception on taking his seat in the stand. It was only Sugar's stubborn refusal to bow to the FA's rulings, imposed for financial irregularities under a previous administration, that had produced such a dramatic reversal of fortunes on Friday.

That it was also Sugar who

had, six weeks ago, so prematurely disposed of Osvaldo Ardiles, the Tottenham manager at the time and favourite son of White Hart Lane, was temporarily forgotten by the supporters. Like Francis, their minds were in a whirl. Or maybe all had been forgiven. He who had taken away with one hand had given back with the other.

Ninety minutes later, if any



Francis's work ethic

doubts lingered, the transformation from a club going nowhere fast to a team chasing a ninth FA Cup triumph and UEFA Cup qualification had been completed. From a side effectively in nineteenth place in the Premiership, down among the relegation fodder, to tenth position and half an eye on Europe next season. Football, at times, defies comprehension.

Francis, though, is a wise man, too. While the full implications of the arbitration panel's decisions were being digested — what possible benefit can be gained from the sport's governing body being so openly chastised? — Francis dealt with more tangible matters. He readily conceded that Sheffield Wednesday should have been more than one goal ahead at half-time, from a close-range shot by Nolan, and equally accepted that Tottenham owed much to the all-round talents of Klinsmann.

"So far so good," he said. "That's four games without defeat, but we can get better. We're trying to play as a team and we're trying to become difficult to beat. We've not arrived yet and there is still a lot of work to be done."

Francis lingers his conversation with "work" — the noun and verb that had become a four-letter word during the devil-may-care reign of Ardiles. Slowly but surely, Francis said, he was instilling the previously-ignored ethic among his north London cavaliers. He had no need, however, to persuade Klinsmann of its importance.

"He's played in World Cups, he's done almost everything, but just look at the way he works off the ball, the way he chases back," Francis said. "What an example he is. Who better for the youngsters to watch, to learn from?"

Klinsmann created Tottenham's sixtieth-minute equaliser for Barmby, with neat

chest control and a deft flick of the head, and was inevitably among the flailing bodies when Calderwood crashed in the third from Anderson's corner. He scored the second himself, his fifteenth of the season, with a thunderous finish — running away from goal, off balance and on the half-volley — from a pass by Howells that was no more than speculative.

"It was a nice goal, but I have scored better ones," Klinsmann remarked modestly before departing for the poverty of Kishinev, where Germany play their European championship qualifying tie against Moldova on Wednesday. Another venue, another game. Klinsmann's work is never done.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): J Walker — D Austin, C Calderwood, G Maltbut, S Campbell — N Barmby, D Howells, D Anderson, R Rosenthal — J Klinsmann, E. Sheenham.  
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2): K Pressman — I Nolan, P Althorpe, A Pearce, L Brookes — C Nardle, G Hyde, J Shenden, A Sinton — M Bright, G Bart-Williams.  
Referee: M Bodenham.

## Boere presents persuasive case

Leeds United..... 2  
West Ham United..... 2

By IVO TENNANT

WEST Ham United's stock-in-trade was once thought to comprise fancy flips and sweet sherries. Every club held a candle to them and every club enjoyed quashing them. Leeds not least. Once a two-goal lead had been established in the cauldron of Elland Road, the match was as good as over.

Not so now. Leeds scored in the second minute through Worthington, added another from Deane midway through the first half and were expected to win by, well, a cricket score. West Ham had managed just four points and four

goals from nine away matches, had most of their better players injured and were required to play an obscure Dutchman at centre forward.

The rest can be guessed. The Dutchman, picked for only the third time this season, scored both of West Ham's goals — and finely taken they were, too. Since Jeroen Boere was sent off on his debut 15 months ago, he has apparently been at loggerheads with the management over his lack of first-team football. That will no longer be the case.

Boere feels he should be in the side for every match. Since he is 27 and was not accustomed to reserve-team football in Holland with the splendidly named Go Ahead Eagles, that is understandable. Consider-

ing that he was approaching his prime when West Ham signed him, his transfer fee of £250,000 was derisory.

Heading is one of his strengths. His first goal from Rowland's cross just before half-time was exceptional for its power and accuracy. His second, the equaliser, was directed downward and beyond the grasp of Lukic. The cross, from Rush, was again a long one: again, the Leeds defence could not cope.

Boere also scored last week, against Queens Park Rangers. "He has held the line and brought others into play," Harry Redknapp, the West Ham manager, said. "He showed aggression that he has not always shown in the past." Aggression was once synon-

ymous with Leeds, but their confidence had been eroded by their defeat at Goodison Park last Monday. This lack of self-belief extends to the manager. Howard Wilkinson said before the match that his "lack of rapport" with Leeds supporters could cost him his job.

No doubt Wilkinson had read reports earlier in the week that Don Revie, the club's most revered manager, had been contacted through a medium by his widow. There is no escaping a past that was infinitely more glorious than the present.

LEEDS UNITED (4-4-2): G Kelly, D Whelan, C Palmer, A Donaghy — G Strachan, G McAllister, N Worthington (sub: D White, 76min), M Threlknap — B Deane, N Whelan.  
WEST HAM UNITED (4-3-3): L Madsen — K Brown, S Potts, M Pinner, J Dicks — M Holmes, B Bishop, K Rowland (sub: M Hughes, 61) — M Rush, J Boere, A Cooles.  
Referee: R Hart.

## Record tenth victory

Macclesfield Town..... 2  
Woking..... 0

By KEITH PIKE

FOR ten minutes or so, Ipswich were magnificent. Oozing class and confidence, they knocked the ball around with precision and panache and were on target with every one of a stream of shots. Forest, literally, did not touch the ball. It was awesome.

Then the kickabout ended and Ipswich were revealed in all their disarray: managerless, clueless and, unforgivably, spineless. It is perhaps unfair to blame the team for John Lyall's midweek departure — although the players are not beyond some criticism, either — but there are no excuses for a performance that was a mockery of the game and an abuse of their supporters' goodwill.

Two goals up without having to break sweat, four ahead as the half-time tea was brewed, Forest could take more pleasure from the relief of victory, their first in eight games, than the margin by which it was achieved. Goalless in six of their previous seven matches, they

## Ipswich lack will to live

Nottingham Forest..... 4  
Ipswich Town..... 1

By KEITH PIKE

Two breathtaking saves by Forest, two awful misses by Roy — including a candidate for 'You've Been Framed' — and the intervention of a post-spared Ipswich from greater humiliation. Jeremy Beadle himself would not have looked out of place in the Suffolk side's defence. Indeed, he might have done better than Sedgley, whose deployment as sweeper was more experimental lunacy than continental influence. Ipswich were reduced to a panicking, bickering shambles. The men in blue, sponsored by Fisons, were playing like it, too.

A goal by Thomsen on the stroke of half-time, two substitutions during it and a return to more familiar 4-4-2 territory at least enabled Ipswich to escape further punishment. They could also be grateful that Forest, disappointingly, allowed themselves to be dragged down towards their level, but Paul Goddard, Lyall's temporary replacement, should not hold his breath waiting for the offer of full-time purgatory.

In a poll staged by a local newspaper, Goddard was emphatically not the choice of

should have scored eight and could have got a dozen.

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Ipswich supporters, who have swapped the most boring team in the FA Carling Premiership for the worst and must wonder what they have done to deserve it. Goddard got one vote (from a Mr Goddard, one cynic claimed), with the majority opting for Mick Mills or Alan Brazil, Portman Road legends.

Applications from miracle-workers are likely to be welcomed by a club now seven points adrift of the safety zone. Forest, meanwhile, could take comfort from a victory that took them back above Liverpool into fourth place and the return of Collymore to something like his rampaging, irresistible best. He scored the opener, his first goal since Gemmell and Haslam both watched Pearce thump home the fourth, Terry Venables, the England coach, may have ignored him, but Collymore in this mood cries out for encouragement and recognition.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-4-1-1): M Crossley — D Lytle, A Haslam, S Christie, S Pearce — S Stone, S Gemmell, L Chapman (sub: P McGovern, 80min), M Wood — B Roy (sub: J Lee, 78) — S Collymore.

IPSWICH TOWN (2-2-1-2): C Pomeroy — S Sedgley — P Whelan, G Longman (sub: S McKinn, 46) — F Yallop, G Williams, C Thomsen, G Johnson — P Mason — A Pate (sub: S Shaw, 46), C Howarth.  
Referee: M Pood.

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Keane surges away from Impey, the Queens Park Rangers midfielder player, before scoring Manchester United's second goal in their 3-2 victory at Loftus Road

## United they stand in desire for title

Whatever their trials in Europe, Manchester United speak the language of English league football with commanding fluency. Abrasive at times, resilient to the core, the depth and the adaptability of their squad and their considerable desire to cling to the FA Carling Premiership title has now won them eight and drawn one of their last nine games.

Their victory against a competitive and, at times, polished Queens Park Rangers on Saturday was evidence that United will not allow the recent tremors, caused by emphatic defeats in Barcelona and Gothenburg, to disrupt their main ambition. That, though it had been doubted, is a third championship. Whatever it is sends out, Alex Ferguson somehow still breathes into United a desire that is combative, raucous and yet pleasing on the eye.

Consider what it took to go into the cramped and difficult surrounds of Loftus Road, against a Rangers side that, for all the change of management from Gerry Francis to Ray Wilkins, passes the ball as well as most sides at the top of the Premiership and seldom believes the opposition can outdo them on their own patch. Rangers were at full strength. United were without Hughes, through suspension,

Schmeichel, Parker, Giggs and Sharpe, through injury, and Cantona, their talismanic Frenchman, who was away on international duty. Moreover, both Kanchelskis and Keane are held together by those bicycle shorts that try to ease the pain in lower limbs afflicted by too many games. May was omitted, his confidence in shreds. With all that, victory was testimony to United's resilience.

Before the eulogy goes on, it must be said that four United players received yellow cards and that Ince, for a vile stamp on Gallen, was lucky not to be sent off. It was a stamp the referee missed: the Loftus Road crowd hissed.

Yet there were other, pleasing elements to this game. If ever English football is to



Scholes: aerial power



### Rob Hughes on a 3-2 victory over Queens Park Rangers in which the champions showed their resilience

regain its ascendancy in the European Cup, it must get back to a commanding style, to a measure of possession play and eliminate the now discredited fashion of humping the ball forward and counting the goals scored from crude knock-downs. In this, a club as small and as proud as Rangers can play as important a part as one as affluent as United.

Indeed, had Rangers the finishing power on Saturday to complement the rhythm and control with which they set about United for the first half hour, the championship pedigree of the visiting team would not have been the most striking talking point to arise from the game. It would have been the managerial potential of Wilkins.

How strange suggestions of scoring impotence must read for, in the 24th minute, Ferdinand scored a goal of such thrilling power that one could easily see why his name was on a shortlist of players Ajax were considering buying to strengthen their attempt to master the Continent this season. The Dutch pulled out

because they saw, as was the case on Saturday, that this wonderful athlete, a man of presence and remarkable spring, can drift, even during a performance in which he is the catalyst.

Ferdinand certainly did not drift in scoring that goal. He turned a competitor as tenacious as Ince fully 30 yards from goal. The ball seemed lost for an instant between his feet and then, out of instinct and sheer quality, he swept it with his right foot, inducing a curl that carried it over the right hand of Walsh and into the far corner of the net.

United's retaliatory sting was nearly instant. Scholes, who had contrived an acrobatic overhead kick to rattle the Rangers bar, was involved again almost ten minutes later. Picking the pocket of the Rangers defence like an Artful Dodger, he equalised the scoring. It was the result of a composite move of eight passes, in which Ince was three times the architect. Nevertheless, it took bravery and expert timing for Scholes to steal between the ball-watching Rangers centre backs and

to beat the hesitant Dykstra with a finely-glanced and powerful header.

Then, against the grain of what had gone before, United scored just before and just after half-time. First Scholes was involved again, this time deep in midfield, flicking the ball to McClair. McClair's intelligent pass found Keane, who surged forward, mocking the medical bulletins that talk of a hernia and a damaged hamstring, finally pushing the ball beneath Dykstra.

During the interval, Wilkins implored his players to believe in themselves, to demonstrate their mettle. They scarcely had time, for, badly defending at a corner from Davies, they allowed Scholes to demonstrate for a second time that his 5ft 5in height is no handicap to scoring goals in the air.

At this stage, one pondered whether United, said to have a covert deal to buy Collymore from Nottingham Forest, might yet be considering a pairing of Ferdinand and Scholes: the power and the intimidating force of the former allied to the awareness of the latter.

Rangers are not without youthful ability themselves. Gallen was so persistent, so manly and so strong for a 19-

year-old. "He holds the ball up beautifully, he has a lovely touch," Wilkins enthused. "He believes in his ability and he is a bit like Mark Hughes in some respects — and I think Mark Hughes, like Manchester United, is the best in the league."

Some praise, yet Gallen was only to hit the bar (arousing little sympathy from Wilkins, who observed that you may as well hit the corner flag) and it was to be Ferdinand who struck what became the second consolation goal.

This time, he was far nearer the target, seven yards out in fact, when Gallen chipped the ball up into the air. Neville, another teenager, was left to jump with Ferdinand; it was no contest. Ferdinand rises like a swallow and his head, from that distance, hits the ball like a hammer blow. It made the score 3-2, brought more points for United, more nervousness at the wrong end of the table for Rangers, who, when they straighten out their defensive vulnerabilities, should climb safely up the table.

QUEENS PARK RANGERS (4-4-2): S. Dykstra; D. Barclay, D. McDermott, A. McDonald, C. Wilson; A. Impey, S. Barker, S. Hodge, T. Sinclair; K. Gallen, L. Ferdinand. MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): G. Walsh; G. Neville (sub: K. Gillespie, 77min), S. Bruce, G. Pender, D. Brown; A. Kanchelskis, R. Keane, P. Ince, S. Davies (sub: N. Butt, 67); P. Scholes, B. McClair. Referee: G. Poll.

## Sutton blocks Luton's path as Pleat looks further afield

Luton Town ..... 0  
Derby County ..... 0

By ROB HUGHES  
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

ROY MCFARLAND, the manager of Derby County, suggested that "Sooty played well" after this goalless Sunday game at Kenilworth Road. For half a moment one wondered if perhaps the former England centre half, now having a torrid time as manager of one of the Endsleigh Insurance League's three big spenders, had exercised his option for switching over this live televised match.

But no. For Sooty, read Sutton, Derby's stand-in goalkeeper, who was keeping a blank score sheet for the sixth time in eight games. To do so at Luton, where there had been nine goals in the previous League match, might sound particularly impressive. However, McFarland's opposite number, David Pleat, offered up the observation that Luton's 6-3 defeat a week ago had been no more than a freak, and that low-scoring games were more often the rule for both of these teams.

So, truer to form, all the genuine scoring chances in this game came and were missed almost before we could acclimatise to the mildness of this December day. Twice within the opening three minutes, Preece, a pocket dynamo celebrating the tenth anniversary of his £150,000 move to Luton from Walsall, should have scored.

First, from a deep cross by Telfer, the most vicious performer on the day, Preece rose well above his full 5ft 5in to head from beyond the far post, but Sooty rose in anticipation to clutch the ball in both hands.

Moments later, Oakes accelerated down the right flank, Dixon controlled the ball on his thigh, then produced a delicate lob, and Preece, not ten yards from the gaping net, somehow sidefooted wide.

That was to set the pattern for the rest of the afternoon. Oakes, described by Pleat as engaging a brain gear higher than all the rest, certainly produced some intelligent forays, but he could not recapture the finishing which had helped to put Newcastle United, Cardiff City and West Ham United out of last season's FA Cup. And Telfer, with quite the most incisive manoeuvre of the afternoon, produced a 25-yard left-foot shot, to which Sutton was again equal with a low, tumbling save.

Derby had ventured nothing. Their excuse is that they came without six of their expensive first-team pool —

six men who had cost more than £4 million. Yet McFarland, describing Sutton as a "becalming" influence in defence, has become a most pragmatic manager whose team has scored just nine times in 11 away games so far this season. And he sees this as a platform from which to launch a push towards the Premiership land and away from the first division.

Pleat came a little closer to some down-to-earth honesty. "I think most of our players wanted to get off to church this afternoon," he said. "They didn't seem to want to play."

The Luton manager had tried to inject some quality, using Paul Allen — on loan from Southampton — first in midfield and then on the wing. Allen, after too many reserve team games, did not have the pace to last the contest.

No matter. Pleat is still searching for the blend, using his network of contacts far and wide. This morning, he takes delivery at Stansted airport of "an experienced Spanish player, currently playing at Oviedo, managed by our former player Raddy Antic".

Pressed for the name of this Spaniard, Pleat admitted that he was not yet on Christian name terms. "Call him Miguel," he suggested. We would rather not. The European Football Yearbook lists Juan A. Andrades as a left-sided player who scored just one goal in the year 1994, starting only six matches under Antic, coming on a dozen times as substitute.

A pity the transfer could not have been arranged sooner, for Miguel versus Sooty might just have been a contest. And Pleat, who might today have been managing big money at Tottenham Hotspur, had instead a parting shot: "I'm only signing him to scare the board — they might have to take on another player's salary."

LUTON TOWN (4-4-2): J. Sumner; J. James, T. Preece, M. Johnson, M. Thomas; P. Telfer, P. Allen (sub: J. Harrison, 70min), G. Waddock, D. Preece; K. Dixon (sub: D. Marshall, 72), S. Oakes. DERBY COUNTY (4-4-2): S. Sutton; J. Davies, C. Shaw, P. Williams, J. Kewenagh; D. Sundridge, M. Kuhl, L. Canney, P. Simpson; M. Stoddart, J. Johnson. Referee: K. Cooper (Swindon).



Preece: prime culprit

## England's women falter after encouraging start

England ..... 1  
Germany ..... 4

By ALYSON RUDD

THE England women's football team made a dream start to its European championship semi-final at Vicarage Road yesterday, taking the lead after seven minutes, but gradually the Germans' superiority, in technique and fitness, allowed them to dominate the first leg.

This was the first meeting between the sides for four years. Since then, the FA has taken over the national team and the players have grown in confidence. Few expected a repeat of the Germans' 4-1 victory in 1990, but women's football has not stopped still, either. Once Mohr had equalised, another defeat seemed inevitable.

In the second half, England tired and allowed the Germans to weave their way through midfield at will. Had their finishing matched their impressive approach play, the score could have been embarrassing. As it was, a combination of slack finishing and fine work by Higgs, the England goalkeeper, allowed them to hang on until the 76th minute. Then Brooker, Burke and Higgs converged on the ball inside the penalty area, and Burke's final touch deceived Higgs.

Nine minutes later, Mohr scored the goal of the game with a fierce 25-yard strike after a fine build-up involving Prinz and Wiegmann. A minute from time, Brion

brought down Voss inside the area, and Wiegmann made it 4-1 with her penalty kick.

Ted Copeland, the England manager, put a brave face on the defeat. "It was a good lesson for us," he said. "We sat too deep and you can't afford to sit back against good players." Karen Farley, who plays in Stockholm and who gave England their early lead, for praise. He felt she would have benefited from improved support.

But what did the man who, from January 1, takes charge of promoting women's football in England, make of it? "Very interesting," David Davies, the FA's director of public



Murray, of England, has her progress checked by Neid yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

affairs, said. "The first thing that strikes me is the potential as a spectacle." The priority for England, however, is for them not to make a spectacle of themselves in the second leg, to be played in Bochum in February.

ENGLAND (4-4-2): L. Higgs (Wendling); K. Farley (Harrison), sub: B. Easton, Liverpool; T. Taylor; S. Barton (Aston), O. Taylor (Liverpool); K. Davies (Cardiff); K. Burke (Liverpool); sub: M. Spencer, Arsenal, 76; G. Coulthard (Doncaster); S. Bates, O. Bampton (Cardiff); J. Murray (Liverpool); K. Farley (Harrison); P. K. Walker (Doncaster). GERMANY (1-3-4-2): M. Gieser (Gut-Wies-Bräunchen); D. Fleischer (TSV Siegen); B. Assmann (TSV Gießen); A. Bernward (FSV Frankfurt); S. Schmidt (FSV Frankfurt); sub: P. Wundtke, SG Preußen, 45; H. Mohr (TUS Niederrhein); S. Neid (TSV Siegen); S. Wiegmann (Gut-Wies-Bräunchen); A. Voss (TSV Siegen); M. Mehnert (SGT Herten-Kaldenhausen); P. Brooker (TUS Niederrhein); sub: B. Prinz, FSV Frankfurt, 76. Referee: S. Piller (Hungary).

## Little cheer from Villa clean sheet

Aston Villa ..... 0  
Everton ..... 0

By PAT GIBSON

THERE was so much talk about clean sheets at Villa Park that it might have been a chambermaids' convention. In fact, it was two managers trying to make sure that the football hotbeds they have chosen to lie in turn out to be more comfortable than they were for their predecessors.

Joe Royle, of Everton, looks fairly smug already. His side could not quite extend their run of three successive victories since he took over from Mike Walker, but their sixth consecutive game without conceding a goal means that they are now within three points of what passes for the FA Cup Premiership's comfort zone.

Brian Little, of Aston Villa, still has some tossing and turning to do before he can be sure that leaving Leicester City was not like swapping one bed of nails for another. Nevertheless, after all the dirty linen that has been flapping across the M69 since he replaced Ron Atkinson, he was happy enough with his clean sheet and a third draw.

"Don't knock it," Royle said after a disappointing wind-swept match that showed what a pragmatic approach both he and Little are taking to their tasks of restoring their old clubs to what they see as their rightful places among the game's elite. "We can work — and we will work — on being a little bit more

inventive, but we were rock-bottom and we had to get some points on the board. At the moment, we are putting something together that will see us through troubled waters. Ten points from four games is a great start for us."

It might have been 12 points, because Everton were twice close to scoring in the last two minutes from Hinchcliffe's dipping corners. Rideout met one perfectly, only for Spink to climax his 450th appearance in the Villa goal with a point-blank save. Ferguson then headed another into the ground, before it bounced over the bar.

Royle admitted it would have been hard on Villa if one of those had gone in, although Little was equally frank in confessing that his team never looked like scoring. That was not too surprising with Saunders away with Wales and Atkinson, Fashanu and Yorke injured, but, having taken a lesson from Everton in the value of clean sheets, he, too, is looking for a more direct approach. Fashanu, soon to return after an Achilles tendon operation, could have a part to play in that.

"We've won only three games this season and that tells you a story," Little said. "You've got to be honest with yourself and to go into the new year still in the bottom four would not be healthy."

ASTON VILLA (4-4-2): N. Spink; E. Barrett; U. Ekechi, S. Teale, B. Small; R. Houghton; K. Richardson, G. Parker, P. King (sub: N. Lemmy, 60min); G. Whitham, G. Fennell. EVERTON (4-4-2): J. Kimmerson; M. Jackson, D. Watson, D. Unsworth, D. Burrows; A. Linow, J. Parkinson, J. Ebbett, A. Hinchcliffe; D. Ferguson, P. Rideout. Referee: R. Gillard.

## Le Tissier's genius fails to convince his detractors

Blackburn Rovers ..... 3  
Southampton ..... 2

By PETER BALL

BLACKBURN Rovers stay at the top of the FA Carling Premiership for another week, but it was a close-run thing. After getting the best possible start on Saturday, they ended up hanging on unconvincingly as Southampton made a nonsense of form and league positions — or rather, Matthew Le Tissier did.

After their flurry in the autumn, when they reached the top half of the table, Southampton have been sliding back to more familiar surroundings. "That's three games in a row now," Alan Ball, their manager, complained afterwards. "We've played really well and we've drawn one and lost two."

They are now only five points clear of the relegation zone and if the mark of a good side, like Blackburn, is to win when not playing well, to lose games after playing well, is ominous. However, in Le Tissier — and, perhaps, Ekech — they have an outstanding creative and goalscoring capacity, unlike most of their companions in distress.

Like many of the English game's greatest talents over the years, Le Tissier is an object of suspicion. He still may not work up enough sweat to satisfy the puritans, but the other calamity against the outstandingly gifted — that they disappear when the going gets tough — does not stand up in his case.

At Ewood Park, with his side up against it, Le Tissier was a constant menace, scoring twice — one of them a leading candidate for goal of the season — and inspiring his young team-mates to take over the game in the second half. After that second goal, he might have made it 3-3 as he broke through in the closing minutes, but Flowers saved at his feet. What he might do in a really good team — Manchester United, say, or Newcastle United — is the stuff of reverie.

Yet for all that, Blackburn won and, even though Shearer supplied his customary goals, the performance raised more questions than it answered about their prospects. With sweepers behind and in front of the back four, Southampton's strategy looked clear. The plan was in tatters immediately.

After five minutes, Monkou's clearing header fell to Atkins, who lashed it past Grobbelaar from 20 yards. Seven minutes later, Blackburn were awarded a penalty.

It was a wonderful goal, it will probably win goal of the season — and deservedly so, Kenny Dalglish, the Blackburn manager, said, "but it would have meant more to the individual if it had brought three points. He'd have swapped that goal for a tap-in and Tim Flowers not making that save at the end. Or at least I would." That suspicion again.

as Shearer fell under Hall's challenge. Grobbelaar saved it splendidly, but Shearer followed up to score.

When the top team gets a two-goal start against one of the Premiership's also-rans, it should open the floodgates, but the flood never materialised, leaving Southampton to strike out firmly.

After the interval, Southampton came out with a new spring in their step. With Magilton and Widdington responding to Ball's instructions, Southampton had taken over.

Le Tissier made it 2-1, and after Shearer claimed his nineteenth goal of the season, the Southampton captain again brought his side within striking distance with his wonderful second goal. Leaving two defenders with a dip of the shoulder, he got to 30 yards from goal, looked up and sent a shot over Flowers and under the bar.

"It was a wonderful goal, it will probably win goal of the season — and deservedly so," Kenny Dalglish, the Blackburn manager, said, "but it would have meant more to the individual if it had brought three points. He'd have swapped that goal for a tap-in and Tim Flowers not making that save at the end. Or at least I would." That suspicion again.

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T. Flowers; P. Whitham, H. Berg, C. Hendry, G. Le Sueur; S. Popley (sub: R. Gillard, 70min), J. Adams, T. Shearer, J. Wallace; A. Shearer, G. Sutton (sub: M. Newell, 75). SOUTHAMPTON (1-4-1-2-2): B. Grobbelaar; R. Marley (sub: D. Hughes, 62); J. Kenny, R. Hall, F. Bonis, S. Charlton; T. Widdington, J. Magilton, R. Maddison; R. Ebdon (sub: G. Mould, 59), M. Le Tissier. Referee: A. Wilson.















# Accurate Andrew points way towards record-equalling romp at Twickenham

## Bracken's vision lays ground for England to blossom



David Hands sees Bristol's speedy scrum half flourish to set up a spectacular 60-19 win over Canada

If Romania, who conceded 54 points to England, were reckoned to be third division and Canada, who conceded 60, were reckoned to be first-division aspirants, where does that leave England? And where would they be without the remarkable Rob Andrew, who has scored 54 of those 114 points to feathered England's assault upon the concept of total rugby?

It is an index of England's standing that the players should have been able to leave Twickenham on Saturday having matched their own points record in internationals (60 against Japan during the 1987 World Cup) and having inflicted upon Canada their biggest defeat — by six goals and six penalty goals to two goals and a try — yet aware of the imperfections that others may punish.

Some of those derived from the simple fact that they had played so little rugby in the previous month, some because their approach to back-row play remains unproven. However, gleaming above all were the possibilities presented by Kyran Bracken's ability to get the ball into his stand-off half's hands so swiftly. That one gift opens the way to fluid back

play and is likely to make Bracken the first choice going into the new year.

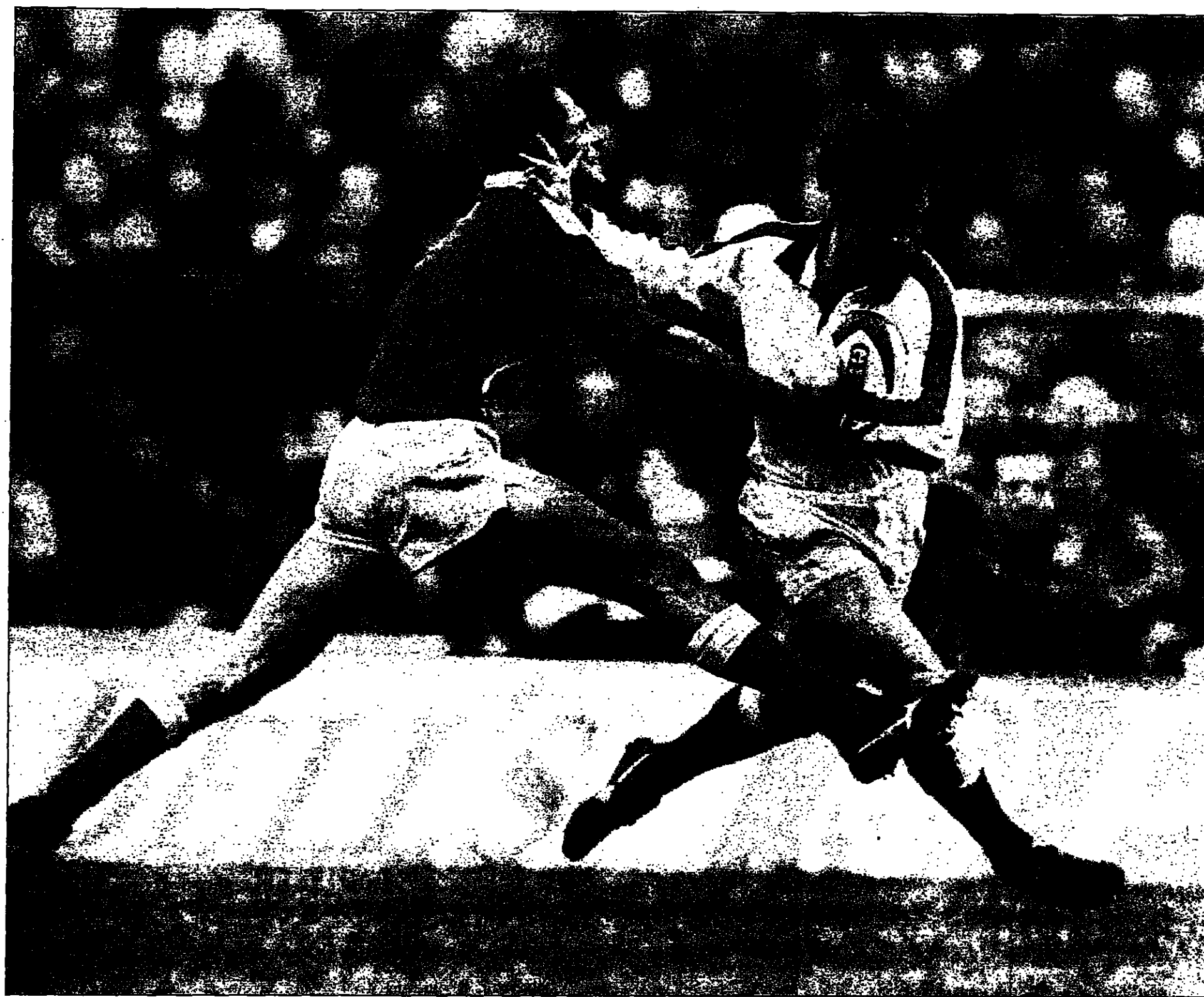
As with Robert Jones for the Barbarians in Dublin seven days earlier, when the play of his centres was suddenly transformed, so with England. They seek to make Andrew the hub of their efforts and early ball gives his experienced head so many options. He is asking questions of opponents that many have not expected to be asked: will he run, will he pass and, if so, which way, or will he put his steamhammer boot to the ball?

It is not only the matter of points accumulation, though his reconstructed goalkicking style — which earned him a perfect 12 goals from 12 attempts, an individual English record for one match (breaking his own of 27 points scored against South Africa in June), and a share of Didier Camberabero's world record of 30 points for France against Zimbabwe in 1987 — can only be applauded.

That Andrew, 31 and in his tenth season of international rugby, is still honing his game, still so modest and self-effacing, would be outrageous were it not so laudable.

However, it is well to remember that Bracken can shift the point of emphasis away from Andrew, because of his speed in the break (against a back row that the Canadian management believed to be the equal of England's), his strength in the tackle and his box kicking. It is arguable that, had England possessed a genuine open-side flyer, there would have been more tries as a result of Bracken's elusive running and because the support in the open spaces would have been more apparent.

If continuity is the name of



Bracken holds off MacKinnon's challenge to complete a thrilling nine-pass movement with England's third try on Saturday. Photographs: Marc Aspland

the game, then Canada, whose ambitions match England's, offered as much through MacKinnon and Gordon. "Clarke wasn't as good as our open-side [MacKinnon]," Ian Birtwell, their coach, suggested, even though the Bath man played probably his best game of the season, his hands dependable and his distribution much improved.

It was instructive, too, that Canada came back so well at the lineouts in the second half. There were England, their back row stacked with height, and there were Canada winning ball at the back of the lineout, so that a substantial first-half deficit was turned into virtual equality; but, by

then, it was too late. England were 39 points to the good before Canada moved the scoreboard, ascending on the back of Andrew's five first-half penalties as Canadians infringed at ruck and maul and, too frequently, in making high and dangerous tackles.

The scoreline will be a mental scar for Canada, who genuinely believed they could win the Save and Prosper international. In that respect, they overestimated their capabilities, even though the margin does less than justice to their contribution to another splendidly entertaining game. What with South Africa's last three Saturday games and a cracking University match,

the rugby public has been spoiled of late.

Nevertheless, Canada, who now play in Toulon and have a full international with France in Besançon, could return home having lost all their four games. On Saturday, they offered several outstanding individuals, among them the leggy David Loughheed, the 26-year-old teacher who lunged over for two tries and threatened whenever he had the ball in space. They also offered a dauntless spirit and three tries in the final quarter, which asked questions of England's concentration. It is easy to say that England, with so substantial a lead, may have relaxed, but Jack Rowell, their manager,

will remind them about defensive patterns, even allowing for the full-scale commitment to attacking rugby that will inevitably leave space to exploit for the nimble-witted counter-attacker.

England were ruthless in punishing Canadian errors, not only in kicking penalty goals but in broken play. It became a game made for Mike Catt, who scored two tries in his second international as a replacement, though it would not be argued that he becomes an option at full back after Paul Hull left with a recurrence of his Achilles tendon problem.

Catt is as confident a runner as there is in the domestic

game, but, as with Steve Ojomoh at open-side flanker, the international arena is not the place in which to learn a positional trade. Catt's confidence will, though, increase tenfold as a result, as will Bracken's after his try, which capped a superb sequence of nine passes and constant support of the ball-carrier.

Moreover, every match that England play with this style will elevate their awareness of the endless possibilities the game offers. If they can recreate it during the five nations' championship, that would be an outstanding achievement. "I would not like to change the team after that," Rowell said.

SCORES: England: Tries: Catt (2), R Underwood (2), T Underwood, Bracken. Conversion: Andrew (6). Penalty goals: Andrew (6). Canada: Tries: Loughheed (2), Evans. Conversion: Rees (2).

ENGLAND: P A Hull (Bristol/RAP); T Underwood (Leicester); W D C Catt (Leicester); J C Stewart (Leicester); J L Leonard (Leicester); B C Moore (Leicester); V E Ugochi (Bath); T A K Rodbar (Northampton/Army); M O Johnson (Leicester); M C Bayfield (Northampton); B B Clarke (Bath); D Richards (Leicester). Hull replaced by M J Catt (Bath, 27min); T Underwood replaced by P R de Gierwin (Bath, 63).

CANADA: D S Stewart (UBCOB); R Toews (Metroland); C Stewart (Rowing); C Stuart (Vancouver FC, captain); D C Loughheed (Toronto Wolf); G L Rees (Oxford University); J D Gray (UBCOB); E A Evans (Bath); M Carroll (Leicester); B J D C Jackson (UBCOB); I Gordon (James Bay); M James (Burnaby Lake); N Hadley (Wessex); G I MacKinnon (Ex Britannia Lions); C McEwen (UBCOB). Stuart replaced by S D Gray (Keele, 56). Replaced: W J Erickson (Australia).



Tony Underwood: try

## Flawed performance provides few clues to World Cup plot

There is a group of Shakespeare plays called "The Problem Plays", for the excellent reason that nobody has a clue what they are about. We should, perhaps, borrow the concept for sport and talk about the Problem Match.

That was certainly what we had on Saturday. It was fascinating stuff, made a lot of dramatic points, but did the points add up? What was it all about? What, in short, did it all mean?

I always forget which are the Problem Plays, apart from Measure for Measure. One of the problems posed by England's match against Canada was to do with measurement. How much is the whole thing actually worth? One advantage you do not have with Shakespeare is that you can chat to the authors after the performance, but this, in truth, was not all that much help. As is usual with public self-assessment, both the English and the Canadians concentrated on praising each other to the skies.

Well, why not? Canada said England were great, which means they must have been pretty wonderful themselves to score 19, while England said that the Canadians were tough as old boots, so England must have been devastated itself to score their 60. All of which brings us to the traditional undergraduate conundrum of the author's intention. Did the Poet really mean this and does it really matter?

The truth of the matter is that England really cannot have meant to play an entire first half leaving the Canadian tryline undamaged. All 15 points came from Andrew, the First Murderer, which was satisfactory so far as it goes.

But the Canadian line was there for the turning — and England did not turn it. They



Simon Barnes, believes England's success at Twickenham raised more questions than it answered

threw a series of slick, well-rehearsed moves at Canada, not one of which actually worked. Instead of casual slaughter, we had purposes mislaid. The great passing sides in any sport pride themselves on being able to "find each other in the dark". That quality was dramatically lacking in the Twickenham gloom.

The Canadians put in a series of shuddering tackles as a discouragement, but England's failure needed a little perspective. How, for example, would France have fared in the same circumstances? Or New Zealand? We need such distance before we can be dogmatic about meaning.

The first half was full of problems, but the second half was still more bizarre, still

more problematic. The score was 6-6 in tries. It was the first time I have ever seen 30 men on a rugby field at the same time all trying to play seven-a-side.

Yet, according to the England manager, Jack Rowell, it was all part of the master plan: "If you score tries like that, you will concede a few. Rugby is going that way."

What? Like Tottenham Hotspur under Osvaldo Ardiles? Well, why not, nothing wrong with the old 4-3 scoreline, or the old 60-19 scoreline come to that, but Ardiles's problem was that Tottenham kept conceding more goals than they actually scored, which, in any ball game constitutes a flawed approach.

Never mind what Jack says,

to leak three tries constitutes what is, in any ball game, a sin — and a mortal one, that of "letting them back in". It was a failure, when the game was there for the taking, to seize control. That measure of professional ruthlessness was conspicuously lacking.

England raised their heads and smiled at each other and in came Canada with three slick tries. Try lifting your head against Australia, or South Africa — or, for that matter, against Ireland in Dublin, which is England's next assignment.

This was a good performance, but shot through, like Measure for Measure, with interesting flaws. Well, we are judging both by the highest possible standards, but then both demand it. Fletcher, the Beaumont and Fletcher of rugby, will go to the World Cup seeking to put up a brave show and to dent a few established reputations.

England will go looking to win it, believing they can. Their performance on Saturday must be regarded as a schooling session. It was an advance, too. Six steps forward and three steps back.

The ultimate meaning of it all will remain elusive until we can bring in retrospective arguments from the five nations' championship and the World Cup. Until then, we must reserve judgement on an intriguing, not uninspiring, problem-raising performance. Obvious virtues, obvious faults.

But then they say the best men are moulded out of faults and, for the most, become more the better for being a little bad. A fine, a problematic one, from Measure for Measure. Perhaps Jack can use it at his next team talk.

## How going straight smoothed my path to the ultimate goal



Rob Andrew explains the change in technique that earned him a place in the kicking record books

I think that since I got the goalkicking job back for England in Paris last winter, I have missed five kicks in six internationals. That represents one each in the games against France and Wales, one in each international in South Africa in the summer and one against Romania. The difference now is that I expect the ball to go between the posts. That has nothing to do with being big-headed — it is purely because of my belief in the technique that I am following.

Alred believes that he can sort out goalkicking and that, if you get it technically right, your level of consistency should improve significantly. I agree, having worked with him, and that is why I am not that surprised at the outcome. The technical side of this is obviously crucial, but concentration is also vital. One without the other would not lead to success.

In a technical sense, I think the most simple explanation is that my follow-through is now much straighter. The natural body swing of a round-the-corner kicker is inevitably across the line of flight, once the boot has struck the ball. I always used to hook the ball a lot, as many round-the-corner kickers tend to, but, by straightening my exit from the kicking action, I have improved my success rate.

Straightening your leg in the follow-through is not an easy action, for your body naturally wants to pull your leg around. It is like the body in the golf swing: it naturally comes round. In this new kicking style, you must keep your shoulders compact and

your head down, in a sort of crouch. If your head comes up, that brings your shoulder out, which pulls your body across. Therefore, the follow-through is across and you lose the straight line of flight that I demonstrated on Saturday.

Knowing that I am striking the ball much straighter has meant that I no longer worry about the position or distance I am kicking from. If you know the line of the ball is going to keep straight, you do not concern yourself with drawing the ball or distance. Assuming you have the power, all that matters is that the ball flies straight.

Concentration is also critical. You are fighting to make sure you are grooved in the technique, for you can lose it even during a training session if you lose concentration. Playing in an international helps me because there is more pressure and that makes it easier to focus and concentrate. I focus on every kick in the same way, even if they are in front of the posts. You must go through exactly the same routine.

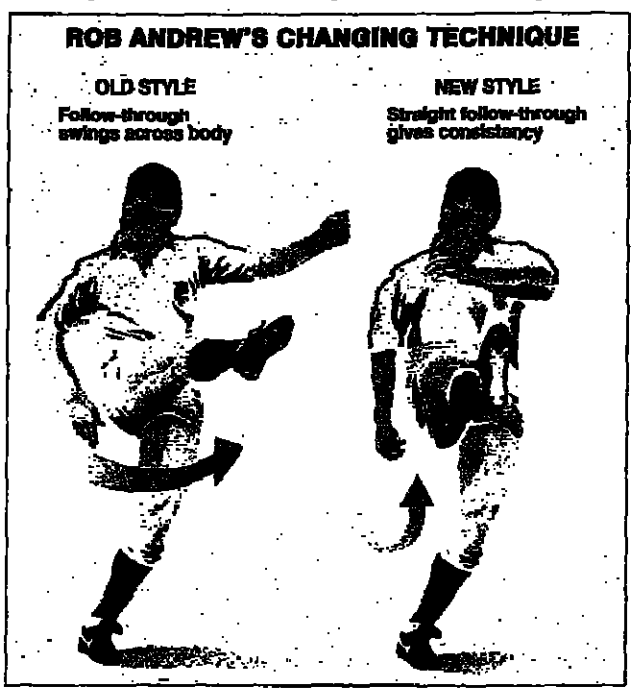
The art of kicking in rugby is so important, but it has been neglected. Under this method, I no longer worry about hitting or missing the target. I know that if the technique is right, most times I will land the goal.

Before, I was like any other kicker under pressure — I would think to myself I must get this kick over. I was almost willing the kick over before I had kicked it. In those circumstances, your head tends to come up even before you have reached the ball and everything goes wrong. With this technique, you put all that out of your mind because there is no need to endure that doubt and anxiety.

Rob Andrew was talking to Peter Bills



Toews, left, tries in vain to catch Rory Underwood



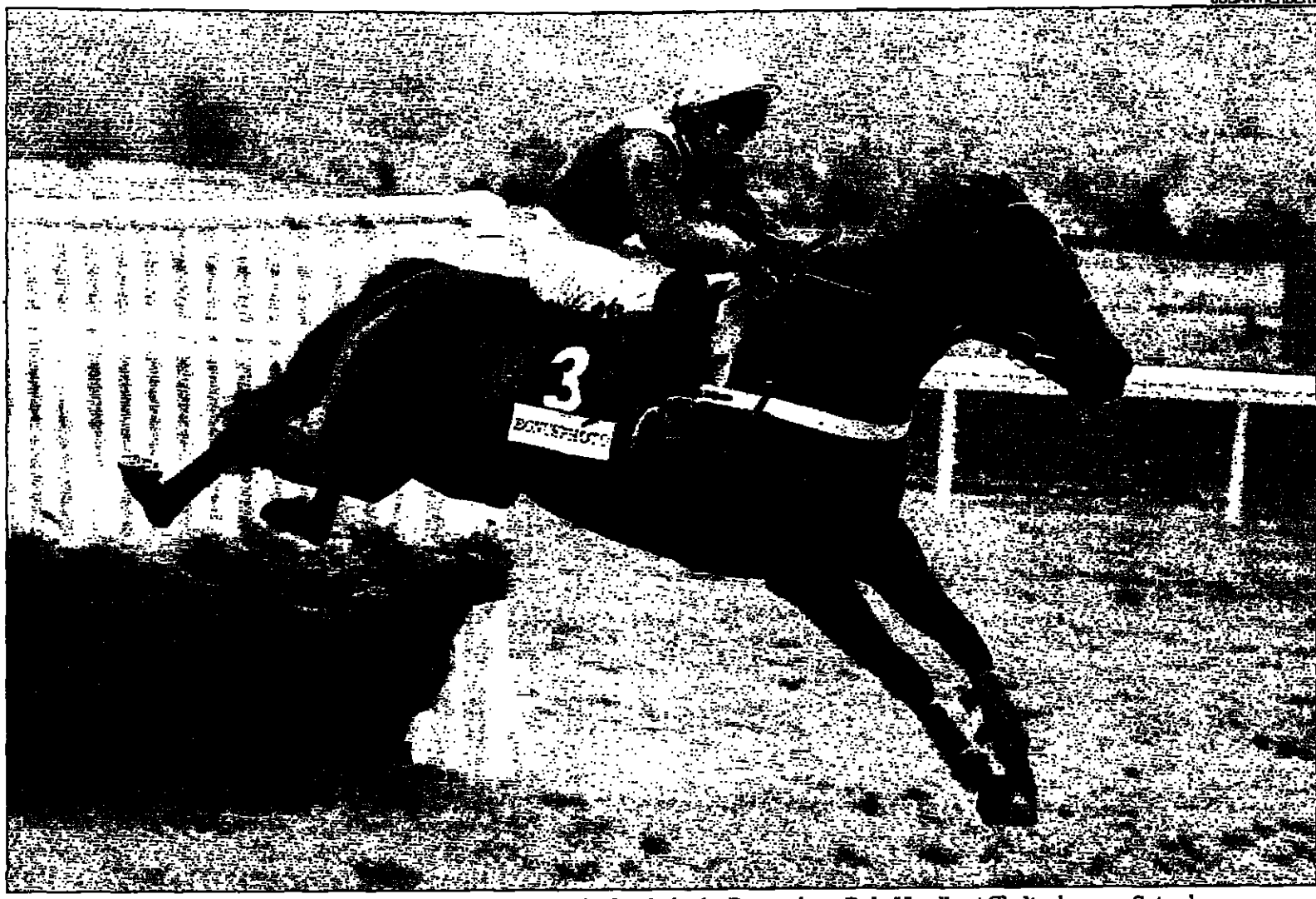












Large Action is clear at the last on his way to an emphatic win in the Bonushphoto Bula Hurdle at Cheltenham on Saturday

## Monsieur Le Cure back on track

By JULIAN MUSCAT

THE amphitheatre at Cheltenham racecourse once again resounded to the strains of a thrilling finish as Monsieur Le Cure, who finished fourth after toiling behind a frantic early pace, left most observers in no doubt that his time is fast approaching.

As Tim Forster, who trains Dublin Flyer, basked in the afterglow of a famous victory, John Edwards spoke with enthusiasm for Monsieur Le Cure's next outing. Having earlier nominated him for the King George VI Chase at Kempton on Boxing Day, Edwards indicated yesterday that his stable star may yet divert to the Rowland Meyrick Handicap Chase at Wetherby on the same afternoon.

That race is almost certainly the target for both Jodami and One Man. Much depends on Jodami, whose presence in the handicap would allow Monsieur Le Cure to race off an

attractive weight. "I was absolutely delighted with his run on Saturday," Edwards said. "It was clear how much he had improved for his run in Ireland, and he will improve again. The outing over that trip [two miles five furlongs] has really sharpened him up. I couldn't have been happier."

On the prospect of tackling One Man at Wetherby, Edwards said: "We beat him in the Sun Alliance Chase but he beat us by a fence at Haydock last year. We'll be a lot fitter this time but I will discuss it with the owner first. It's either Wetherby or the King George."

Monsieur Le Cure's preference for easy ground will also influence the decision. Hard though he tried over the last four fences on Saturday, Monsieur Le Cure could make little impression on Dublin Flyer. The bold-jumping eight-year-old turned into the Cheltenham straight with a healthy advantage after his front-running tussle with Coulton only resolved itself when the latter's propensity for jumping errors resurfaced at the sixth-last fence.

A prodigious leap at the penultimate fence confirmed the leader's resolution, and although Nuafie, the Irish challenger, momentarily headed him halfway up the run-in, Dublin Flyer responded to Brendan Powell's urgings to regain the initiative in the very last strides.

Powell's restraint made a sharp contrast with the efforts of Sean O'Donovan aboard the runner-up. The Irish jockey, using his whip like an over-zealous school master, earned himself a seven-day suspension that would have been wholly inappropriate had his tactics prevailed.

Forster, in his first season from his new base at Ludlow, took the opportunity to scold British Horseracing Board

officials for their recent pruning of 89 chases. "I'm horrified," Forster said in a winner's enclosure still throbbing with excitement. "As far as I know, it's called steeplechasing and I presume people want those who breed them. John Sumner has bred this horse and kept it for eight years. I just hope there are some chases left for him to run in."

If Sumner was equally incensed, his feelings were concealed by the thrill of victory. "It will deter me not a jot," he said. "We're all fools who breed National Hunt horses. It's been a disaster apart from Dublin Flyer: the usual breeding story I'm afraid."

Large Action's victory in the Bonushphoto Bula Hurdle fur-

thered his Champion Hurdle aspirations, although his 22-length defeat of Fluke Dove, the reigning champion, was gained on terms 4th better than he will have in March.

Oliver Sherwood has a choice of engagements for Large Action, whom he pronounced at full fitness on Saturday.

Adrian Maguire resumes at Warwick today after a fall from Country Lad forced him to miss the winning ride on Billygoat Gruff. But Carl Llewellyn has not been so fortunate. X-rays revealed that Llewellyn sustained crushed vertebrae in a spill on Friday which will sideline him for at least two months.

"I'm flat on my back in Cheltenham General Hospital and will have to stay like this for a couple of weeks," said the injury-prone jockey, who suffered this latest setback on the day he returned from a month's absence with a damaged ankle. "At least the injury will heal properly in time though," he added. "There is no long-term damage."

Top Brass, who damaged a tendon in winning at Cheltenham on Friday, is out for the rest of the season.

### LEADERS OVER THE JUMPS

TRAINER	Days	Level	Level
1st	2nd	3rd	4th
M. J. H. H. H.	36	30	22
M. J. H. H. H.	36	30	22
M. J. H. H. H.	36	30	22
M. J. H. H. H.	36	30	22
M. J. H. H. H.	36	30	22
M. J. H. H. H.	36	30	22
M. J. H. H. H.	36	30	22
M. J. H. H. H.	36	30	22
M. J. H. H. H.	36	30	22
M. J. H. H. H.	36	30	22

JOCKEY	Days	Level	Level
1st	2nd	3rd	4th
R. D. H. H. H.	79	55	48
R. D. H. H. H.	79	55	48
R. D. H. H. H.	79	55	48
R. D. H. H. H.	79	55	48
R. D. H. H. H.	79	55	48
R. D. H. H. H.	79	55	48
R. D. H. H. H.	79	55	48
R. D. H. H. H.	79	55	48
R. D. H. H. H.	79	55	48
R. D. H. H. H.	79	55	48

## Soviet Line lands Hong Kong prize

SOVIET LINE gained a notable British victory in the seven-furlong Hong Kong International Bowl, worth £228,000 to the winner, at Sha Tin yesterday. The Michael Stoute-trained gelding, owned by Maktoom Al-Maktoum and ridden by Walter Swinburn, was trapped on the inside turning for home but produced a telling late run to deny the American challenger, Nijinsky's Gold, by 1 1/4 lengths.

The winner, a 9-2 chance, was gaining his fifth success of a season which has also produced wins at York, Kempton, Doncaster and Goodwood. Heart Lake, trained in Ireland by John Oxx, finished a head third with another British rider, Simon Dow's Young Ern, running a fine race to

finish fourth. Young Ern's jockey, Richard Quinn, lodged an objection to the winner for interference early in the straight but the result was allowed to stand.

Swinburn said: "I always felt I was

Results and starting prices from Saturday's meetings.....Page 32

in the right position and had plenty of horse under me." Stoute, too, was full of praise for Swinburn's efforts. "I'm delighted with the ride," he said. "I'm glad he listened when I said: 'Don't panic if they go off fast.'"

European runners also held sway in the inaugural running of the Hong Kong International Vase as the French-based Red Bishop, trained by John Hammond, beat Reg Akers' Urge Request.

Quinn's front-running tactics on Urge Request appeared to have done the trick leaving the back straight, but Cash Asmusen brought Red Bishop, formerly trained in Britain by John Gosden, to deliver a race-winning challenge a furlong from home. At the line he had 2 1/4 lengths to spare. Mark Johnston's Double Trigger and the Richard Hannon-trained Alrifra were unplaced.

However, Emperor Jones failed to

complete a profitable day for the Europeans when he could manage only a disappointing fifth in the International Cup. Gosden's four-year-old, who started a heavily-backed favourite, tracked the leaders and appeared to be cruising coming off the home turn.

But once asked for his effort, he could not threaten the front-running State Taj and faded to finish about five lengths behind the winner, who is trained in Melbourne by James Riley. The Robert Collet-trained Volochine fared best of the European challengers, finishing third, with Clive Brittain's Alfora, the other British runner, well beaten after holding a prominent position early.

## Votes for Walden open way to brighter future

There now follows a party political broadcast on behalf of the Racing Party. Please do not adjust this page or rip into the kitchen to make a cup of tea.

As elections go, the contest for the chairmanship of the British Horseracing Board's (BHB) industry committee is unlikely to cause a tremor on the political Richter scale. Until last week it is doubtful whether the ballot for the £5,000 a year post would have produced a ripple of newspaper interest beyond Britain's two racing dailies.

While there was a general feeling that no outstanding figure had emerged to succeed Sir Nevill Macgregor, the expected ballot between Mr. Thomas McCloy, the lawyer specialising in racing matters, and Rhidian Morgan-Jones, chairman of the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association, would have sufficed. Both are perfectly adequate candidates, racing insiders clued up on the detailed workings of various parts of the industry.

The surprise but welcome decision of Brian Walden to throw his hat into the ring has not only transformed the election, it is potentially one of the most exciting developments for racing as the 21st century beckons. The former Labour MP and television interviewer is, by general consent, a man of intellect, intelligence and influence, who would lend stature to the BHB. He also happens to enjoy racing.

More importantly, he has a vision for the sport's future which is in tune with the times and possesses the ability

to transform that vision into reality. Everyone knows that the key issue to be addressed is finance, as British prize-money remains embarrassingly low by international standards. Everything else is secondary.

The question is how to redress the balance which sees the Government take £350 million annually from betting on horses, while off-course bookmakers keep an estimated £150 million. Racing nets only £55 million.

Walden knows, rightly, that tinkering with racing's existing financial system will not suffice. Radical change, involving the levy and the

should go to an insider, not an outsider, say his critics.

A BHB note outlining the job description says "the ideal candidate for this post would have an understanding of the racing industry and, while a detailed knowledge of all the key issues is not expected initially [my italics], he or she would need to acquire a full appreciation of the industry's concerns in a relatively short time."

Are Walden's critics suggesting that a man who, week after week, grasped a wide variety of complex issues and questioned Cabinet ministers ruthlessly about them in front of millions, will not be able to understand the problems faced by breeders, trainers, jockeys and so on? Are they seriously saying that one of the most eloquent speakers of his generation, who communicated the thoughts of his constituents to Parliament for 13 years, is not up to telling the main BHB board about the hopes and fears of racing's grass roots? How short sighted can some people become?

Walden has no axe to grind and does not seek the job for power or glory; he would offer an objective assessment of the industry's difficulties. Above all, he can help extract racing from its financial mire and set the sport on course for a more prosperous future.

The choice facing the 13 organisations, including jockeys, trainers, breeders, stable lads and bloodstock agents, who select the industry committee chairman, is simple. Vote Walden and vote for racing's future. Reject him and risk stagnation.

RICHARD EVANS



Racing commentary

Tote, is required. That will involve considerable thought and lobbying of government. I can think of no one better to help Lord Hardington and Tristram Ricketts.

Yet there are some who believe Walden is not the right person for the job. He does not possess a sufficient detailed knowledge of the industry; he will not be able to communicate the concerns and priorities of those involved in the business of racing to the main BHB board. In short, the job

### NEWTON ABBOT

THUNDERER  
12.45 Elite Reg. 1.15 Ramstar. 1.45 Lewesdon Hill.  
2.15 Darnier Blanc. 2.45 Carlingford Lakes. 3.15  
Kalskold. 3.45 The Minster.

GOING: HEAVY SIS

12.45 BORDER FOX CHALLENGE TROPHY SELLING  
HANDICAP CHASE (22.00). 2m 110yds (9 runners)

1	1514 ELITE REG 9 (D.F.F.S.) M P 5-12-0	J. Darnwood	96
2	2-55 NOS NA GATINE 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
3	1-33 GENERAL MERCHANT 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
4	1-47 RATHER SHARP 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
5	1-31 CURE, PRINCE 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
6	4-47 SANDMORR 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
7	3-15 MIRAMAX 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
8	3-40 QUEENS CLIMATE 7 M P 5-12-0	J. Darnwood	96
9	1-10 ALPINE 27 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96

7-4 Elite Reg. 1-4 Darnier Blanc, 5-1 General Merchant, 6-1 others.

1.15 WEATHERBYS NEWCOMERS SERIES NOVICES  
HURDLE (22.48). 2m 10yds (8)

1	1-47 ELITE REG 9 (D.F.F.S.) M P 5-12-0	J. Darnwood	96
2	1-33 GENERAL MERCHANT 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
3	1-47 RATHER SHARP 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
4	1-31 CURE, PRINCE 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
5	4-47 SANDMORR 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
6	1-33 MIRAMAX 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
7	3-40 QUEENS CLIMATE 7 M P 5-12-0	J. Darnwood	96
8	1-10 ALPINE 27 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96

7-4 Elite Reg. 1-4 Darnier Blanc, 5-1 General Merchant, 6-1 others.

1.45 PINE LODGE CHALLENGE TROPHY NOVICES  
CHASE (22.37). 2m 110yds (6)

1	1-33 GENERAL MERCHANT 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
2	1-47 RATHER SHARP 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
3	1-31 CURE, PRINCE 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
4	4-47 SANDMORR 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
5	1-33 MIRAMAX 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
6	3-40 QUEENS CLIMATE 7 M P 5-12-0	J. Darnwood	96

7-4 Elite Reg. 1-4 Darnier Blanc, 5-1 General Merchant, 6-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

1-33 GENERAL MERCHANT 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

1-47 RATHER SHARP 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

1-31 CURE, PRINCE 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

4-47 SANDMORR 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

1-33 MIRAMAX 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

3-40 QUEENS CLIMATE 7 M P 5-12-0

1-10 ALPINE 27 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

7-4 Elite Reg. 1-4 Darnier Blanc, 5-1 General Merchant, 6-1 others.

1-33 GENERAL MERCHANT 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

1-47 RATHER SHARP 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

1-31 CURE, PRINCE 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

4-47 SANDMORR 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

1-33 MIRAMAX 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

3-40 QUEENS CLIMATE 7 M P 5-12-0

1-10 ALPINE 27 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

7-4 Elite Reg. 1-4 Darnier Blanc, 5-1 General Merchant, 6-1 others.

1-33 GENERAL MERCHANT 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

1-47 RATHER SHARP 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

1-31 CURE, PRINCE 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

4-47 SANDMORR 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

1-33 MIRAMAX 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

3-40 QUEENS CLIMATE 7 M P 5-12-0

1-10 ALPINE 27 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

7-4 Elite Reg. 1-4 Darnier Blanc, 5-1 General Merchant, 6-1 others.

1-33 GENERAL MERCHANT 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

1-47 RATHER SHARP 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

1-31 CURE, PRINCE 13 (D.F.S.) M P 11-11-9

### WARWICK

THUNDERER	2.00 Seaward
12.30 Zaaheyah	2.30 Sister Stephanie
1.00 WITH IMPUNITY (nap)	3.00 Easy Buck
1.30 Corner Boy	3.30 Green's Fair

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.00 ESKIMO NEL.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) SIS

12.30 YOUNGSTERS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVICES SELLING HURDLE  
(22.16). 2m (15 runners)

101	05-24P CLASSIC IMAGE 10 (B) A 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
102	05-24P CLASSIC IMAGE 10 (B) A 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
103	05-24P CLASSIC IMAGE 10 (B) A 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
104	05-24P CLASSIC IMAGE 10 (B) A 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
105	05-24P CLASSIC IMAGE 10 (B) A 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
106	05-24P CLASSIC IMAGE 10 (B) A 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
107	05-24P CLASSIC IMAGE 10 (B) A 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
108	05-24P CLASSIC IMAGE 10 (B) A 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
109	05-24P CLASSIC IMAGE 10 (B) A 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96
110	05-24P CLASSIC IMAGE 10 (B) A 11-11-9	J. Darnwood	96

BETTING: 6-4 Allegation 4-11-9, 5-11-9, 6-11-9, 7-11-9, 8-11-9, 9-11-9, 10-11-9, 11-11-9, 12-11-9, 13-11-9, 14-11-9, 15-11-9.

1993: SOUTHAMPTON 3-10-2, N. Colman 15-11-9, G. B. B. 13-11-9.

FORM FOCUS

LOFTY DEED 2m 110yds at 14 to 15 to 16 to 17 to 18 to 19 to 20 to 21 to 22 to 23 to 24 to 25 to 26 to 27 to 28 to 29 to 30 to 31 to 32 to 33 to 34 to 35 to 36 to 37 to 38 to 39 to 40 to 41 to 42 to 43 to 44 to 45 to 46 to 47 to 48 to 49 to 50 to 51 to 52 to 53 to 54 to 55 to 56 to 57 to 58 to 59 to 60 to 61 to 62 to 63 to 64 to 65 to 66 to 67 to 68 to 69 to 70 to 71 to 72 to 73 to 74 to 75 to 76 to 77 to 78 to 79 to 80 to 81 to 82 to 83 to 84 to 85 to 86 to 87 to 88 to 89 to 90 to 91 to 92 to 93 to 94 to 95 to 96 to 97 to 98 to 99 to 100 to 101 to 102 to 103 to 104 to 105 to 106 to 107 to 108 to 109 to 110 to 111 to 112 to 113 to 114 to 115 to 116 to 117 to 118 to 119 to 120 to 121 to 122 to 123 to 124 to 125 to 126 to 127 to 128 to 129 to 130 to 131 to 132 to 133 to 134 to 135 to 136 to 137 to 138 to 139 to 140 to 141 to 142 to 143 to 144 to 145 to 146 to 147 to 148 to 149 to 150 to 151 to 152 to 153 to 154 to 155 to 156 to 157 to 158 to 159 to 160 to 161 to 162 to 163 to 164 to 165 to 166 to 167 to 168 to 169 to 170 to 171 to 172 to 173 to 174 to 175 to 176 to 177 to 178 to 179 to 180 to 181 to 182 to 183 to 184 to 185 to 186 to 187 to 188 to 189 to 190 to 191 to 192 to 193 to 194 to 195 to 196 to 197 to 198 to 199 to 200 to 201 to 202 to 203 to 204 to 205 to 206 to 207 to 208 to 209 to 210 to 211 to 212 to 213 to 214 to 215 to 216 to 217 to 218 to 219 to 220 to 221 to 222 to 223 to 224 to 225 to 226 to 227 to 228 to 229 to 230 to 231 to 232 to 233 to 234 to 235 to 236 to 237 to 238 to 239 to 240 to 241 to 242 to 243 to 244 to 245 to 246 to 247 to 248 to 249 to 250 to 251 to 252 to 253 to 254 to 255 to 256 to 257 to 258 to 259 to 260 to 261 to 262 to 263 to 264 to 265 to 266 to 267 to 268 to 269 to 270 to 271 to 272 to 273 to 274 to 275 to 276 to 277 to 278 to 279 to 280 to 281 to 282 to 283 to 284 to 285 to 286 to 287 to 288 to 289 to 290 to 291 to 292 to 293 to 294 to 295 to 296 to 297 to 298 to 299 to 300 to 301 to 302 to 303 to 304 to 305 to 306 to 307 to 308 to 309 to 310 to 311 to 312 to 313 to 314 to 315 to 316 to 317 to 318 to 319 to 320 to 321 to 322 to 323 to 324 to 325 to 326 to 327 to 328 to 329 to 330 to 331 to 332 to 333 to 334 to 335 to 336 to 337 to 338 to 339 to 340 to 341 to 342 to 343 to 344 to 345 to 346 to 347 to 348 to 349 to 350 to 351 to 352 to 353 to 354 to 355 to 356 to 357 to 358 to 359 to 360 to 361 to 362 to 363 to 364 to 365 to 366 to 367 to 368 to 369 to 370 to 371 to 372 to 373 to 374 to 375 to 376 to 377 to 378 to 379 to 380 to 381 to 382 to 383 to 384 to 385 to 386 to 387 to 388 to 389 to 390 to 391 to 392 to 393 to 394 to 395 to 396 to 397 to 398 to 399 to 400 to 401 to 402 to 403 to 404 to 405 to 406 to 407 to 408 to 409 to 410 to 411 to 412 to 413 to 414 to 415 to 416 to 417 to 418 to 419 to 420 to 421 to 422 to 423 to 424 to 425 to 426



Putting one foot in front of the other is a growing phenomenon, writes Alan Franks

# An exercise in staying a step ahead of the rest

There is a point at which walking ceases to be a means to an end and becomes a pursuit. When this shift occurs, the leisure analysts are in like a flash to claim us as a statistic. If, like the Government's general household survey, you accept walking as a sporting activity, then it is the most popular one in the UK, with four and a half million participants.

Let us not get drawn straight into the swamps of criteria. Basically, it has to be not less than two miles to qualify, and taken for its own sake. It can be linear, circular, up, down, level, tarmac, grassy, restful or aerobic. Often, the routes will use rights of way across common or private land; often, they will take in open fell and closed-seeming farmland. At some point there is another shift and we are in the terrain of the ramble.

This creature is of course closely related to the walker by dint of activity. But there are differences. At this time of year the ramble can be instantly spotted by his bright Gore-Tex plumage and the clear pouch which hangs from his neck and contains an Ordnance Survey map. He possibly carries a whistle, even in Surrey or Bucks, but his more frequent call is a hurrumph of exasperation at the farmer who has ploughed over a right of way.

Rambling, which is committed walking, is more popular now than it has ever been. There is much evidence for this. Annual UK sales of walking clothing, boots and equipment are at a record level of £60 million. They have more than doubled in the past 15 years, as has the number of specialist books, route guides and publications. New long-distance footpaths are being regularly introduced to add to Britain's pedestrian network of 140,000 miles. Most significantly, the Ramblers' Association has reached the 100,000 membership mark, almost doubling its ranks since the early 1980s.

These phenomena are partly the symptoms of growth and partly the cause. Each glossy hardback thudding onto the coffee table with new ways of doing the Dales is both a response to existing demand and a further stimulus to the walking trade. It is an irony to which the late Alfred Wainwright, painstaking draughtsman and best-selling routefinder of the Cumbrian hills, was never quite reconciled.

The ramble of the 1990s remains a diverse species, hardy and adaptable. He may be in his nineties or not yet be in double figures. He may just have completed his umpteenth three-week assault on the 450-mile South West Peninsula Footpath, or be still in the contemplating stages of the Seven Sisters walk between Eastbourne and Cuckmere Haven. He is slightly more likely than he once was to proceed in an

## SPORT FOR ALL



Rambler Anne Richards

THE 100,000th member of the Ramblers' Association joined through an advertisement in *The Times*. She is Anne Richards, 42, of High Wycombe, and she will receive a presentation from Peter Stothard, Editor of *The Times*, tomorrow. She rediscovered her enthusiasm for walking while touring First World War battlefields, and decided the Ramblers was her best option, since her family does not share her interest.

organised group, but more likely still to go with family or friends. There is twice the probability that he will use private transport than there was in 1963. Last year he spent about £100 on gear, and gave a slightly larger sum than this to charities, most of them environmental.

In his passion for the protection of rights of way, he is immutable. This, and the related issues of access, particularly to land passing into private ownership from the Forestry Commission, are his main concerns.

When asked why he rambles so, his reply will almost certainly contain a reversionary strand; he will be going "back to" his own country boyhood, or "back to" some broader innocence, some pre-lapsarian map when the towns barely encroached. Today he finds himself sharing a millennial vision with the Countryside Commission, which wants to see all paths in the network fully opened and maintained by the end of the century. This is a laudable and long-evasive goal, rather like the summit of a convex slope.

3. Whether he knows it or not, he walks on the shoulders of giants — men such as the late Tom Stephenson, pioneer of the Pennine Way, or the writer John Hillaby, whose classic *Journey Through Britain* obsessed countless other romantics with the notion of picking their way through our packed land on a minimum of metalled road. And whether he articulates it in this way, he will probably share J.B. Priestley's joy in the meditative nature of walking, the "skull cinema" which is activated by long country hours of putting one foot in front of the other.

From time to time there will be a flurry of great interest in pedestrian affairs, as when Fiona Campbell this year completed her record-setting round-the-world walk; or, 40 years ago, when the controversial Dr Barbara Moore walked from John O'Groats to Land's End in 23 days; or when Ian Botham hoofed his way with a trio of elephants in Hannibal's Alpine footsteps.

But for most of the time its appeal moves along at its own historic pace, spurred here and there by the appetites of a society which one day suffers from stress, the next from unemployment.



Walker Fiona Campbell

Walker Fiona Campbell this year completed her record-setting round-the-world walk; or, 40 years ago, when the controversial Dr Barbara Moore walked from John O'Groats to Land's End in 23 days; or when Ian Botham hoofed his way with a trio of elephants in Hannibal's Alpine footsteps.

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Ramblers enjoy a winter excursion on Box Hill, near Dorking in Surrey, organised by the National Trust. Photograph: Martin Beddall

Fibre pile belacava: £20  
Gore-Tex anorak: £130  
Fibre pile top: £80  
Shirt: £20

**THE RAMBLER'S WINTER WARDROBE**

The Peering Way  
The Wainwright Way  
The Pennine Way

WITH the exception of the coast-to-coast route, all these paths have been designated National Trails by the Countryside Commission, and are the subjects of guides published with the Ordnance Survey.

Although they are continuous long-distance routes, they can also be walked in individual sections of a day's duration.

### The Wainwright Way

A 190-mile coast-to-coast path from St Bees in Cumbria, to Rob-in Hood's Bay, North Yorkshire. Devised along existing rights of way by Alfred Wainwright. Passing through three National Parks give it unmatched variety.

### South West Peninsula Coast Path

At 450 miles, the longest in the UK, from Studland Bay, west of Bournemouth, to Minehead in Somerset.

Perfect for days of resort-hopping along the coasts of Dorset, Devon and Cornwall. Highlights include Purbeck and the toe of Land's End.

### The Pennine Way

At 30, the oldest of the official distance routes, which now number over a dozen. Both dour and dramatic, it is a hugely rewarding 250-mile tramp up the backbone of the land, from Edale in the Peak National Park to Kirk Yetholm, just over the Scottish border.

### The Ridgeway

Central section of the prehistoric chalkway and trading route that once ran from Axminster in Devon to the Wash. This rolling 80-mile path goes from Avebury in Wiltshire to Ivinghoe Beacon in Buckinghamshire, crossing the Thames at Sreatley.

### The South Downs Way

Forty friendly miles from Winchester to Eastbourne. With barely a climb worthy of the name, and conveniently crossed by the rail network at several points, this is one which is made for the oppressed Londoner.

## INFORMATION

The Ramblers' Association at 1-5 Wandsworth Road, London SW8 2XX, (071-582 6878) publishes the *Ramblers' Yearbook* at £4.99. There will be more than 200 walks throughout Britain in the week between Christmas and the new year. Information from the above address or from The National Trust, West of Wicks, 36 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AS. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

Other recommended books:  
The Coast to Coast Walk by Alfred Wainwright (Michael Joseph £9.99)  
Country Walks Near London by Christopher Somerville (Simon & Schuster £7.99)

## Cycling makes painless move

By PETER BRYAN

THE restructuring of the British Cycling Federation (BCF) was achieved almost painlessly and with a minimum of debate with the election of seven directors (formerly chairmen) of seven specialist commissions (previously committees) at the federation's annual meeting over the weekend in Manchester.

"The object is to draw on the great reservoir of talent that exists within our membership to prepare in a businesslike way for the 1996 Olympic Games and for the 21st century," the BCF president, Ian Emmerson, said.

The only surprise in the voting was for the position of director of track racing. After the first round of vote-casting, there was a tie between the two candidates — Tony Doyle, a former world champion, who was unable to attend the meeting as he is recovering in hospital after crashing in the Zurich six-day race two weeks ago, and Roger Whitfield, a national track champion during the Sixties.

Emmerson declined to use a casting vote and ordered another ballot. Doyle came out on top, winning by only one vote — 44-43 — from Whitfield. Four delegates ab-

stained. Doyle was the only current rider to be appointed a director. He will now invite a minimum back-up team to join him.

On hearing the news, Doyle said: "This will not end my racing and now I can put something back into the sport which has given me so much. British cycling's future is in track racing. I have already got the wheels moving by getting a British team an invitation to a January track meeting in Copenhagen."

The Birmingham division's success in gaining a vote of no confidence — by 57 to 27 — in the racing committee was a hollow victory, since the group was a victim of the restructuring.

Seven new national road and track championships were added to the list of title events, the most important of which is the track three-mile Olympic sprint, in which one rider of each team drops out each lap.

Simon Lillistone, England's double silver medal-winner at the Commonwealth Games in Victoria, will be out of competition for three weeks. He broke a collar bone in a crash at the Manchester velodrome.

## Coup that turned out to be a lottery

THIS morning it will be confirmed that someone out there is the best part of £18 million better off than he or she was on Saturday afternoon. I salute the National Lottery winner. With the full range of 49 numbers from which to choose, the future tycoon selected nothing under 26 and four from the last dozen; that is courage and deserves recognition — though possibly not £18 million.

The thing to remember about fortune is that it pursues no logic nor does it have a memory. There is no reason why next week's numbers should not be the same as last week's... or emerge from the chosen drum in numerical order, like from one to six.

Roulette players who keep records of the slots into which the ball falls will tell you that, on a true wheel, between now and infinity each number will come up a similar number of times; the thing to do is wait until there are laggards and back those to catch up.

The appeal of the lottery is actually the reverse of that of other forms of gambling. In a lottery, skill is not a factor. The moron has the same chance of success as the genius and nobody is made to feel guilty about losing.

As a betting man, the lottery is not something that makes appeal; odds of 14 million to one are deeply

uncompulsive and if I want to give money to charity, I like charity to have it all. But, about 20 years ago, I did enter a colour magazine Christmas competition in which one could win six new Granada cars replete with extras like a time lock on the petrol cap... so I am not blameless.

In my competition, the prizes were to go to those who

**CLEMENT FREUD**

Afterthoughts

had, first: matched the pictures of six British mountain locations with six suggested names thereof.

Then: supplied the best answers to "Which six features do you expect to see on the Ford car of the year 2000?" And for the tie-break: "State in no more than 12 words what is so terrible about a Granada."

I set out to win all six cars.

A reliable, temporarily unemployed driver was sent to the six named locations with a camera and enough film to take pictures from every conceivable angle. Within a week, I was 100 per cent certain that No 5 was Falmouth, in Sutherland. No 6 Snowdon from Beddgelert, etc.

I recruited an undergraduate at the University of Michigan and persuaded him to write to Ford's department of advance planning in Detroit to glean information "for his thesis on 'The car of the year 2000'." Within a month, I had details of each innovative feature on which work was being done.

Several of these merited consideration: a sensor that enabled the car to self-steer at given speeds; a parking system emitting rubber balls which could be lowered and enable the driver to move sideways; computerised headlights that dimmed and brightened as demanded by the light of the evening and oncoming traffic; safety airbags; radar route-finders; adjustable tyre treads to cope with the change in the surface of the road... things like that.

I juggled these innovations on each of eight entry forms, a set of which I submitted from six different locations — southwest England, Wales, Merseyside, Yorkshire,

Northern Ireland and Scotland — each under a different name and a different address, each in a different handwriting, each posted on a different day in a different kind of envelope... but each having the correct locations for part one and a genuinely creep answer to the tie-break, ranging from "It has ever been my dream to drive a mechanically perfect vehicle" to television show catch-phrases of the time such as "I give it a grand A every time".

The cost of my entry was about £225 in fuel, film, postage, phone calls and bottles of wine to seal contracts with friends who might otherwise keep the Granada they were winning in my cause. The price of the car was about £7,000 and I looked upon it as an investment at 180-1, for I was out to get all six.

The results were announced in early March. All the locations were as I had discovered. The winners came from the wide range of areas for which I had made provision. The judges' selected answers to the "innovative features" were social rather than technical: a child seat with independent rocking action; car keys that buckled in the hands of anyone who had consumed a wine gum within the last four hours...

No, I do not remember all the winning answers. I was far too angry.

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☐ I enclose £ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ We occasionally exchange names (for use once only) with other organisations which may interest you. Tick if you prefer to be excluded.

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# EDUCATION

## Unfit to be a governing body?

Should businessmen control universities?  
**Catherine Bargh and Peter Scott put forward their own findings**

A crisis is gathering in universities and colleges — not the crisis of funding (lack of) or the emerging crisis of quality (wobbly), but a secret crisis of governance.

The fear of Sanctuary Buildings, home of the Department for Education, and of the Bristol and Coventry headquarters of the higher and further education funding councils is that new business-minded governing bodies may be running out of control.

Bournemouth, Huddersfield and most recently Portsmouth universities, all former polytechnics, have encountered high-level corporate turbulence. In each case their governing bodies seem to have been caught wrong-footed, allegedly either by failing to control their chief-executive vice-chancellors or by alienating mainstream academic opinion.

Two further education colleges have also run into difficulties. Governors have resigned, or been sacked, for not exercising proper financial control or, more worryingly, encouraging business practices that are out of place in public, and especially, educational institutions.

As a result the drafting of a guide to governors, which had been proceeding at a leisurely pace, has been made a priority by the department and the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE). Meanwhile regional officers of the Further Education Funding Council (FEFC) have been placed on red alert, with instructions to report college crises (whether induced by gung-ho governors or predatory principals), before the press does. Everywhere the question is nervously asked: are the few examples so far of governor-trouble just the tip of the iceberg?

The 40 "new" universities, the former polytechnics freed from local authority control in 1989, and the 600 further education colleges which followed them into corporate independence a year ago, have identical constructed governing bodies. Independent governors drawn principally from local business fill the majority of the 12 to 24 places, while representatives of lecturers and other staff and of local authorities have been marginalised.

The original universities, in contrast, are governed by much larger and more representative councils. These tend to be dominated by two groups — the county and civic great-and-good, and senior academics. Local authorities, effectively excluded from any voice in the institutions they so recently ran, are also well (although often supinely) represented.

But there is a more important difference between the two types of governing body. "New" university



Portsmouth University staff voting in a no-confidence motion against Neil Merritt, the vice-chancellor, who has since resigned

and college governors are modelled on boards of directors: they are meant to be agents of culture change, dragging their institutions into the new age of (privatised) enterprise. "Old" university councils are more likely boards of trustees, the guardians of grand institutions.

According to one vice-chancellor of a "new" university his independent governors expect to have a much stronger sense of ownership, and are interested in the "core business", teaching and research, not just peripheral support services like estates.

However, little attempt has been made to study either kind of governing body. In the absence of reliable information speculation has flourished, like the not-in-front-of-the-children anxieties of the DFE and funding councils and also the charges that ex-polytechnic and further education governors are another example of the New Corruption of unaccountable quangos.

Our research at the Centre for Policy Studies in Education at the University of Leeds attempts to sort fact from fiction. All council and governing body members in 24 universities (10 "old" and 14 new) and four colleges of higher education were sent a detailed questionnaire earlier this year. Seventy-two per cent replied, an unexpectedly high response rate which may indicate that governors themselves are keen to explore new roles. Two-thirds of the 494 were lay or independent gover-

nors, a quarter academic staff and the rest were students or representatives of non-academic staff.

The average council or governing body member is aged between 46 and 55, male (only 17 per cent were women), and white (98 per cent). They are well educated: more than half are graduates and a quarter have PhDs. Four out of ten lay governors have professional backgrounds and a third come from industry. Only 2 per cent are trade unionists. Over half are in full-time jobs, although a fifth are retired.

Governors are also likely to be Conservatives, but not as overwhelmingly as quango conspiracy theories suggest.

Overall 43 per cent voted Conservative at the last election, 28 per cent Labour and 22 per cent Liberal Democrat. However, there are big differences among the two kinds of governors, especially in the former polytechnics. Sixty-one per cent of the independent members voted Conservative and only 14 per cent Labour. With academic members it was the other way round — 65 per cent voted Labour and only 20 per cent voted Conservative.

However, despite these party-political differences, independent and academic governors tend to agree on issues of higher education policy, which may suggest that the former

have gone native. We asked about three key issues — privatisation, consolidation of student numbers and the creation of a unified system in which differences between universities and polytechnics have been abandoned.

Both groups are more likely to believe universities and colleges should be supported predominantly by taxation rather than private funds, although academic members have a stronger preference

for public support. Almost 80 per cent disagreed with the statement that current public expenditure on higher education was adequate, and a similar proportion did not believe that future growth could be paid for out of productivity.

On the other hand, an overwhelming majority agreed with the Government's policy of consolidation, now extended for a further year. In another vote of confidence in recent government policy, supporters of a unified higher education system outnumbered opponents by two-to-one. Even in the "old" universities most council members supported a unified system.

The routine belief that independent governors of "new" universities are more executive-minded than the lay members of "old" university councils is not fully supported by the survey. The two groups do have different

priorities, but they form part of a spectrum of views rather than two distinct perceptions of their roles. Both sets of governors, for example, see the university as a corporate rather than collegial institution.

"New" university governors, by and large, are not trying to run their institutions like corner-shops, although they are confused about how interventionist they should be. Lay members of "old" university councils, in turn, do not see their responsibilities as confined to forming the dignified (as opposed to efficient) element in governance. Ten years on from the Jarrett report on university efficiency some are searching for a more challenging role.

For ministers, who hoped independent governors would be powerful change-agents, this lack of differentiation between former polytechnics and universities may come as a disappointment. But for those worried by the prospects of governing bodies running out-of-control, it made a reassuring finding.

Our research suggests that, although future alarms are inevitable as over-enthusiastic governors overstep the mark, there is not really a general crisis of governance — or, rather, that the crisis is chronic rather than acute. It arises from the lack of accountability and the gap between governors and academics, rather than the possibility that sleaze is likely to spread round the system.

The authors are at the Centre for Policy Studies in Education, University of Leeds.

**'A guide for governors has become a priority'**

## LMS works — and here's the proof

A recent survey suggested that local authority schools have £800 million unspent in their bank accounts, an indefensible sum when authorities are being forced to make cuts in the education service. The blame was attributed to local management of schools (LMS), the system that devolves financial responsibility to governors.

In reality, LMS has been a great education success story — for which local education authorities (LEAs) can take much of the credit. Many of them, notably Solihull, Cambridgeshire, the Inner London Education Authority and Hertfordshire, started giving schools more autonomy before the 1988 Act introduced arrangements for the whole country.

All LEAs can claim credit for the successful implementation of the policy since then. But LMS in its present form is not perfect, as the problem of underspending demonstrates. That is why the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, which fully supports the principle of LMS, is looking for ways to improve its practical application. There needs to be balance between making education accountable to parents and the public in general, and the need to give governors and headteachers the managerial freedom and flexibility to release their initiative and creativity to get the best out of teachers and students.

It is, however, important to work out where within the system different decisions are best made. In some cases, co-operation and collaboration is more effective than a rigid demarcation of powers.

The association's analysis has two starting points: the

**A 28-point plan could make local management of schools even more successful**

only justification for educational change is to raise levels of achievement, and management decisions should be devoted to the lowest level possible — the principle of subsidiarity. All schools should have development plans built on these principles. Authorities should monitor the performance of schools and have the necessary powers to plan strategic services for their area, to set standards and to intervene positively where these standards of performance are not achieved. Central government has an important role in setting the overall framework for the education service and ensuring that LEAs carry out their responsibilities effectively.

But the 1988 Education Act introduced LMS according to a rigid formula. The present system prevents LEAs targeting money effectively to deal with specific problems. Schools have to be funded according to the average cost of a teacher, even though teachers' pay increases as they gain experience. A school with more older teachers will therefore have higher costs than one where most teachers are newly qualified. We propose a new approach that can resolve this anomaly without detracting from school governors' right to

manage their teaching force.

We also recommend a practical approach to reduce underspending. End-of-year balances would be limited, unless governors made clear the purpose of building up large sums, and schools could pay into the equivalent of a credit union for contingencies.

However, LMS does not just deal with finance. The governing body now has important powers and responsibility for the employment of staff.

This is right, but employment law is complex and lay governors need help when there is a major problem to face. For example, the LEA should be involved in the final decision to dismiss a member of staff, and in all cases where it is necessary to discipline a head teacher.

Recently, we have made some progress in discussing these matters with the Government. Education ministers have recognised the problems we have raised and expressed interest in finding solutions.

The AMA has 28 detailed recommendations which, together, would improve LMS greatly. They could be introduced quickly, with no need for a major change in the law. This approach has all-party support within the association and I believe it would be welcomed by most teachers, heads and governors.

What local management can do, and is starting to do, is to allow LEAs to concentrate on strategy and monitoring, which will make school staff responsible for the decisions they take and lead to a better use of resources.

**GRAHAM LANE**

The author chairs the AMA's education committee.

Far from being a distraction for young readers, television can provide marvellous stimulation

## Goggle-eyed about books

I may not have had the hype of *Middlemarch* or *Martin Chuzzlewit*, nor been discussed at length on arts programmes and in the columns of Sunday supplements, but the series of Jane Hissey's *Old Bear* stories, published by Red Fox, have soared since they were televised. There is something about television that makes us want to read the book, however old or young we are.

It is not simply that adults are buying the books for their children. When my three-year-old daughter walked into a bookshop having seen the bumper Christmas edition of *Old Bear*, she demanded that I buy her a copy.

Far from preventing children from reading, therefore, it often actually encourages them. They want to revisit a programme that they have enjoyed. It is no coincidence that all the popular television series aimed at young children, such as *Fireman Sam*, *Postman Pat* and *Rosie and Jim*, have written spin-offs.

The publishers know that the young audience will persuade their parents to part with money on a visit to a bookshop. Similarly, they enjoy seeing a well-loved character come to life on the screen. In one school I visited, often the only books that a child possessed were those linked to the screen.

Parents can capitalise on this motivating force of television to encourage reluctant readers into the world of books. Children like familiar characters and will often re-read the stories or act them out with other children. This initiative behaviour is often seen as a source of concern. Yet it can be understood to be as much a



Sweeping success? Little Bear in *Old Bear Stories* may send children back to the book

part of the process of learning to read as decoding the print. They are experimenting with the way stories work, how action develops.

It is possibly for this reason that it tends to be only those books that were selling well to begin with that sell better when they are televised. They actually offer more to the young reader in the first place. Discerning three-year-olds would no more be interested in buying a book that had bored them on television than we would.

Even *Where's Wally*, published by Walker Books, which has often been criticised, has much to offer. While the text is minimal, the illus-

trations are extremely complex and provide endless opportunity for discussion and storytelling. The book sold well initially, but the American cartoon version quadrupled its sales.

Particularly with children's books, a serial is more likely to have this effect than a one-off showing. Even a book as good as *The Snowman* by Raymond Briggs had to be shown two or three times before it became the virtual industry it is now. This may be particularly pertinent when it comes to the broad-casting of books on school programmes which are specifically designed to help child-

## The dangers of blazers

If own-clothes days are peaceful, why have uniforms at all?

When is a uniform not a uniform? When it is worn on a tag day, it seems. And what is a tag day? It is a day of revolution, a day in the school calendar when, for a small donation to charity, pupils may come to school wearing their own clothes.

A day of revolution? Well — not exactly. Because all that happens is that these rebellious adolescents simply swap one uniform for another. Not blazers, but jeans; not ties, but Doc Martens, or leggings, or whatever else happens to be in fashion. Having been conditioned for years to suppress their individuality, our pupils meekly follow the crowd. Uniformity still prevails.

More surprisingly, discipline does not break down. These students do not burn their text books or rampage through the staff room. Most of them still arrive on time. They follow the timetable — a little self-consciously, perhaps, but with no symptoms of revolutionary zeal.

So what has the defence for school uniform

to say to this? One of their strongest arguments has always been that uniform instils a sense of discipline. Put a girl in a tunic or, better still, a tie, and she will sit up and pay attention. But let her wear jeans and she will slouch and doodle through the day, if she bothers to come to school at all. Anarchy threatens.

Where did this myth originate? Is it because many school uniforms began life as sports clothes for school? For a team game calls for team clothes, might not team clothes create a team spirit? And what is team spirit but self-discipline for the common good?

Stirring words, and many parents believe them. When they go to view a prospective school, it is the smart blazer and neatly tucked-in shirt that impress them. This, and regular spelling tests — both a sure sign of a school's firm hand.

But uniform is also a sign of conformity, a mask behind which the individual disappears. The rulers of that dystopian state in

*Brave New World* knew this only too well when they dressed their different social casts in different coloured uniforms: "leaf-green Gamma girls... black Semi-Morons", not to mention the "mulberry-coloured Beta-Mimuses". Schools of today seem to prefer navy, but the principle is the same. Dress them alike to promote solidarity. The danger is that we may then fail to recognise their individuality. This was what *Brave New World* wanted: do we?

Of course school life is made easier if all children conform, if they happily allow themselves to be moulded into the pattern the system decrees. But they remain individuals, nonetheless, and in some cases their individuality can be a threat both to themselves and the adults around them. Do we repress these differences from them completely? Or do we welcome them? Our differences are part of our identity and we must learn to use them constructively.

A real community is not built on conformity. It has nothing to do with clothes. Rather it is created by a mutual respect, where differences are acknowledged, not feared. Putting every child in uniform will not make them feel they belong. Nor will it necessarily create a disciplined environment. Children must feel accepted. Then self-respect can grow, and with it the self-discipline and sense of responsibility which is the basis of a secure society. Some schools which know this already, and have successfully created living communities without so much as a blazer in sight.

So go for the school which dresses its pupils in badges and ties, by all means — caps and boaters if you wish. But stop and ask why uniform is so important. Find out whether they are taking your child to mould or to develop. And ask yourself which it is you want.

**MARGARET LEESON**

decide the symbols of print as well. I first became aware of the power of television in this field when, exhausted after a sleepless night with a new baby, I plunked the older one in front of *Sesame Street* to get a bit of peace and quiet. I was extremely surprised when, the next day, she pointed at the car number plate and said: "There's an X."

*Rat-a-tat-tat*, broadcast by Channel 4, prints whole sections of text below the pictures. The word that is actually being spoken is highlighted. None of the books used are reading scheme books, but many have distinct phrases or patterns which are repeated, while others rhyme. My older daughter used her understanding of the pattern of the phrases to predict what was coming next. "Look," she exclaimed triumphantly, "I'm reading it." She had begun to be aware of the fixed, one-to-one correlation between the spoken word and its appearance in print, which is a key step in learning to read.

As parents, we have a golden opportunity to encourage our children to read. Rather than being obsessed with the virtues of phonics or anxious that children are developing square eyes, talking about the words, pictures and ideas that books contain provides invaluable insights into how books work and why we enjoy them. If television is part of this process, as it seems to be, long may the programme-makers bring children's books to our screens.

**BETHAN MARSHALL**

The author is an advisory teacher in English and lecturer at Kings College London.







# Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
<b>BANKS</b>				
Bank of America	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
Bank of England	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
Bank of Ireland	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
Bank of Scotland	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
Bank of Wales	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
<b>DISTRIBUTORS</b>				
British Airways	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Petroleum	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Telecom	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Virgin Islands	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British World	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
<b>BREWERIES</b>				
Adnams	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
Beck's	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
Carlsberg	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
Guinness	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
Heineken	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
<b>DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS</b>				
British Airways	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Petroleum	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Telecom	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Virgin Islands	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British World	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
<b>BUILDING &amp; CONSTRUCT</b>				
British Airways	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Petroleum	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Telecom	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Virgin Islands	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British World	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
<b>ENGINEERING, VEHICLES</b>				
British Airways	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Petroleum	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Telecom	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Virgin Islands	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British World	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
<b>FOOD MANUFACTURERS</b>				
British Airways	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Petroleum	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Telecom	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Virgin Islands	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British World	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
<b>ELECTRICITY</b>				
British Airways	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Petroleum	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Telecom	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Virgin Islands	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British World	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
<b>ELECTRONIC &amp; ELECT</b>				
British Airways	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Petroleum	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Telecom	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Virgin Islands	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British World	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
<b>BUILDING MATERIALS</b>				
British Airways	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Petroleum	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Telecom	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Virgin Islands	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British World	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
<b>HEALTHCARE</b>				
British Airways	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Petroleum	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Telecom	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Virgin Islands	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British World	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
<b>HOUSEHOLD GOODS</b>				
British Airways	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Petroleum	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Telecom	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Virgin Islands	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British World	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
<b>INSURANCE</b>				
British Airways	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Petroleum	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Telecom	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Virgin Islands	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British World	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
<b>BUSINESS SERVICES</b>				
British Airways	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Petroleum	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Telecom	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Virgin Islands	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British World	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
<b>ENGINEERING</b>				
British Airways	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Petroleum	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Telecom	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Virgin Islands	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British World	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
<b>CHEMICALS</b>				
British Airways	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Petroleum	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Telecom	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British Virgin Islands	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5
British World	12.15	+0.05	4.5	12.5

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
<b>HEALTH BUSINESS CARE - AN ENTERPRISING PARTNER</b>				
<b>YOUR INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE BROKING PARTNER C E HEATH</b>				
<b>SHORTING (under 5 years)</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>LONGS (over 15 years)</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>INVESTMENT TRUSTS</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>INDEXLINKED</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>UNDATED</b>				
100% 100% 100%				

Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
<b>PHARMACEUTICALS</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>SPRITS, WINES &amp; CIGARS</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>SUPPORT SERVICES</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>PRINTING &amp; PAPER</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>MINING</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>LEISURE &amp; HOTELS</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>PROPERTY</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>TEXTILES &amp; APPAREL</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>OIL &amp; GAS</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>OTHER FINANCIAL</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>RETAILERS, FOOD</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>TRANSPORT</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>RETAILERS, GENERAL</b>				
100% 100% 100%				
<b>WATER</b>				
100% 100% 100%				











In the 1970s, Lord Joseph brought fresh air to blow away a policy consensus that had become hopelessly bogged down in its own contradictions. How sad that he should die when, after most reforms he proposed have been realised, the new Conservatism is itself becoming stale.

The old regime fell because full employment policies, combined with vast swathes of bureaucratic state industry and powerful trade unions, made it increasingly impossible to resist inflation without ever more artificial means, taxpayer subsidies and market distortions. The towering edifice was collapsing of its own accord by the time his ideas were put into practice.

The Thatcher revolution cut state industrial operations, cut direct tax rates, encouraged enterprise, opened up markets to allocate resources more efficiently and allowed productivity to move ahead much more rapidly. It nearly beat inflation once and should do so this time. Most of us rallied in the early 1980s against the heavy cost, still being felt as a shortage of manufacturing industrial capacity for sustained growth. But a short-term price always has to be paid for a long-term revolution.

The limits of the new thinking have emerged only in the past half dozen years. For Lord Joseph, a prime aim of opening up the economy was to improve living standards at the bottom of the income pyramid by generating

higher growth. People could earn more from real jobs, instead of relying on state handouts or on trade unions trying to prop up non-jobs that were doomed because their product did not justify the pay. But this has not happened. Instead, the burgeoning social security budget suggests poverty has increased, whether from unemployment, under-employment, or low pay. Social security payments have mushroomed even though the benefit regime has been cut back.

The poverty trap has now become a trap for policymakers as well as for those stuck in it. Instead of cutting back the state, further tax or market reforms tend to raise public spending and the proportion of national income that flows through the Government's coffers.

That was the fatal flaw of the Chancellor's doomed attempt to raise the rate of VAT on domestic fuel. Until 1992, the switch from income tax to indirect tax had not been regressive because poorer people spend more of their money on items such as food and heating which were exempted from the tax for that reason. In trying to avoid a rise in income tax when the books



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

had to be balanced, the Treasury went a step too far. The second tranche of VAT would have added nearly half a point to the price index, raising public spending automatically though adjustments to pensions and benefits. Giving extra compensation to the retired and the needy, who are most affected, adds yet more to spending. Roughly, for every £3 raised, public spending had to be raised by £1. Regressive taxes that rather up public spending as a percentage of output are bad taxes.

Market reforms are raising public spending too. The huge rise in housing benefit stems from commitments to protect the needy when

rents were de-regulated. This backfired because there were far more needy people than the Government had bargained for. Instead of de-regulation raising supply and cutting prices, the benefit net buoyed prices up at enormous expense to taxpayers. Clearly, the rent regime needs to be more subtle.

Attempts to get people back into work are also coming up against contradictions. One part of the policy has been to create, or at least save, jobs by eliminating minimum wages fixed by wages councils. Another part is to overcome the reluctance of unemployed people to take jobs that pay less, or little more, than their total benefits. Result: jobs subsidies are growing. Public spending on family credit is rising. Work subsidies are now being mooted for single people. There is no guarantee that getting people into low-paid jobs will result in any long-term cut in public spending.

Next on this sorry list is privatisation of Railtrack. Here, the issue is not poverty but the impact of unbundling cross-subsidies to improve the working of markets. British Rail makes a big loss. If Railtrack is sold to the public as a

profit-maker, therefore, public subsidies to train operators will have to rise to protect loss-making services. One estimate puts the increase in subsidies at £600 million a year. Doubtless, services will be run more efficiently in the private sector, but operators are unlikely to save anything like that. Privatising Railtrack will expand public spending.

Last week, the Commons Trade and Industry Committee complained that the Government was interfering in the gas market in a similar situation. Competition in domestic supply unravels subsidies to smaller and usually needier customers. In this case, the regulator has structured a market would say distorted — British Gas pipeline tariffs to offset the workings of the market. This makes nonsense of the argument for competition but makes sense in avoiding yet more public spending to compensate for price rises. Were ministers more flexible, they could defuse rows about water bills — and save benefit spending — by gearing water charges to council tax charges.

In the practical world, market forces sometimes have unacceptable side-effects. If public spending is to be trimmed, it is sometimes necessary to interfere. Future policy should take much more account of poverty. If income taxes are to be cut next year, for instance, the Chancellor should arrange to give the entire net benefit to people on the lowest incomes. If he did that, he might actually cut public spending too.

## Silly ways to raise state spending by mistake

Self-reliance is the key to lasting benefits, says Ross Tieman

# Elusive dividends of Irish peace

A year ago, Vietnam was the fastest-growing holiday destination in the world. Today, though still growing like crazy, it has been overtaken by Beirut. Will Belfast be the next Mecca for the intrepid, post-conflict traveller?

It may sound unlikely to Britons. In our television lexicon, Belfast is a place of spray-painted concrete walls, soldiers and grey, rain-swept light, accompanied by a grinding soundtrack of prejudice.

But raise your eyes from Divis and the Falls Road. Girt by hills, flanking the headwaters of its sea-loch, Belfast is a classic northern manufacturing city. Tough but rewarding, it is culturally distinct, with music and a gritty humour drawn from both Scottish and Irish strands of the Celtic tradition.

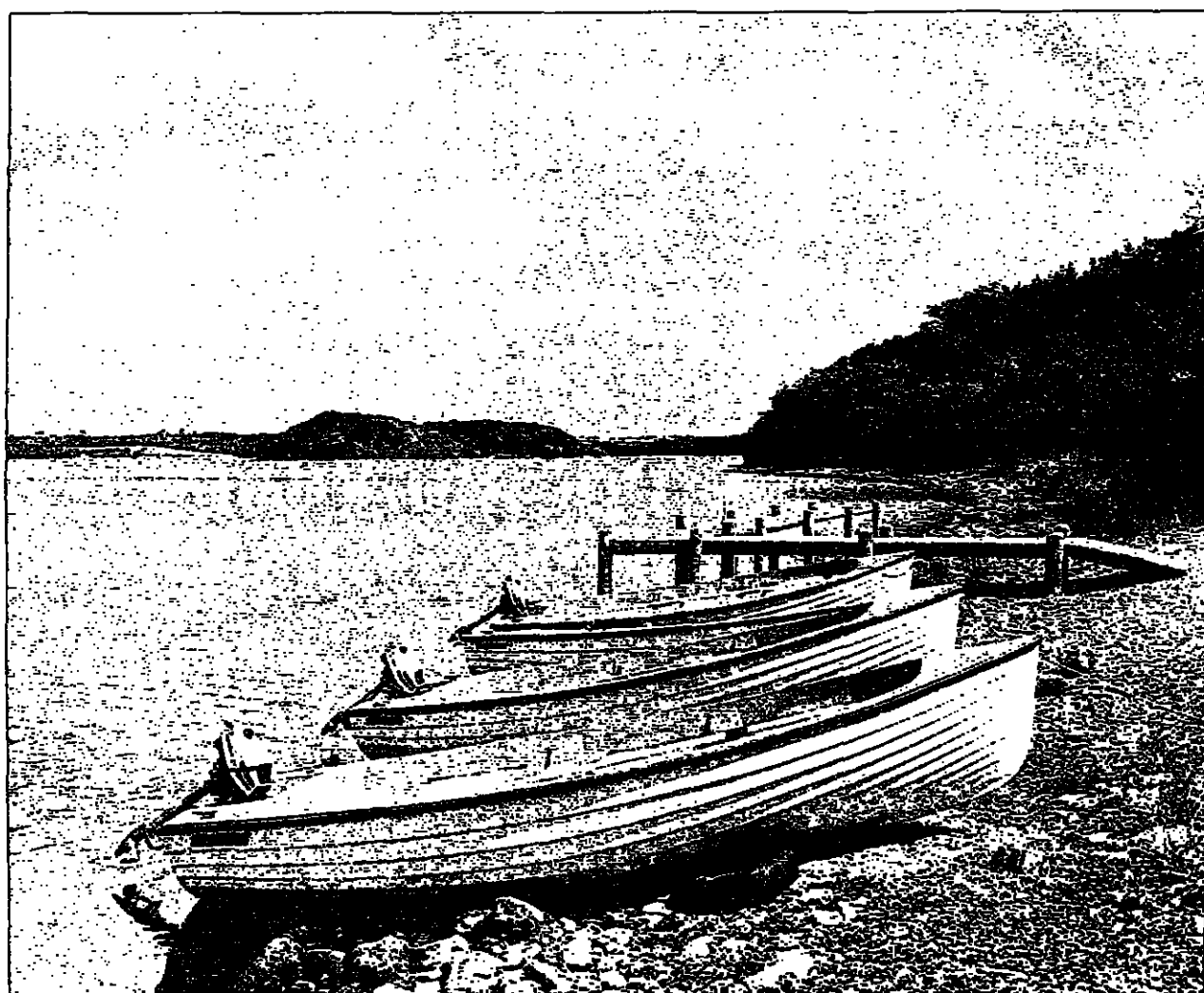
By next summer, Northern Ireland could well be host to a growing stream of French, German, Italian, Spanish and perhaps American youngsters curious to discover what all the fuss was about. The province will be hard pressed to accommodate them.

In the Irish Republic, tourism is a major source of employment, contributing an estimated 5 to 6 per cent of gross domestic product. In Ulster, annual revenues are little more than £120 million. Tourism employs no more than 10,000 people, and its contribution to GDP is a miserable 1.5 per cent. Twenty-five years of conflict have crushed the development of the world's fastest growing industry.

In fact, the entire economy of Northern Ireland has been thrown woefully out of balance. Private enterprise has been stymied. Security spending and unemployment have inflated the public sector.

Emigration has caused a steady outflow of talent. Turning off the subsidy tap will be as tough as taking the heroin away from a junkie. Academics have suggested that the conflict cost the province 25,000 to 40,000 jobs in the early 1990s.

The bloodshed has coincided with a structural shift in Western economies from which Northern Ireland has not been immune. Belfast was a city founded on manufacturing: the Harland & Wolff shipyard and Shorts aircraft works on the waterfront re-



Tourism is a casualty of the Irish conflict. Lough Erne, Fermanagh, waits to be exploited

main totems of this heritage. For the past 20 years, manufacturing has been learning how to substitute machine tools for muscle, and improve productivity and quality in the process. Northern Ireland has seen employment in industry shrink from 170,000 in 1971 to 100,000.

Some manufacturers have prospered, despite the difficulties. There are numerous examples of indigenous, middle-sized manufacturing firms that have prospered through entrepreneurship and a stable, committed workforce.

Self-reliance has tended to be the key to growth. The troubles hindered access to the wider Irish market and compounded the modest, but real, problems of cost and delay imposed by geography on access to the markets of Great Britain and continental Europe. Many companies on mainland Britain have simply

spurned involvement in the province and its market opportunities. Inward investment has been discouraged.

Rather, it is the security industry that has burgeoned. Law and order spending accounts for almost a fifth of the £5 billion (excluding social security) a year of public cash disbursal in the province. That is three times the level of security spending on the mainland. In addition, supplying the 12,000 troops stationed in Northern Ireland probably injects a further £400 million to £500 million into the economy.

The regional Confederation of British Industry estimates that 20,000 jobs could be lost if security spending were to fall to peacetime levels. In addition, the Royal Irish Regiment could be cut from 5,000 to 2,000, and 2,000 to 4,000 jobs in Army support activities could be lost. The politicians worry, quite rightly, that all

this could create great bitterness, and insecurity, in an area where job creation has traditionally been slow.

For two decades, the economy of Northern Ireland has been detached from that of the mainland, insulated by the high level of state spending both from the booms and busts of the British economic cycle.

Yet slowly, it seems to be re-establishing the link. Unemployment peaked in 1992 at 106,000, or 13.9 per cent of a workforce estimated at 763,000. Over the past two years, the number claiming benefit has diminished to 93,500, a rate of 12.5 per cent. Over the past five years, employment in Northern Ireland is reckoned to have increased by 25,000, much of it in the private service sector. Unfortunately, many of these

new jobs are believed to part-time. The biggest problem, as elsewhere in Britain, is that the proportion of men without work, at 16.7 per cent of the workforce, remains distressingly high, and many of the unemployed have been out of work for a year or more.

Creating jobs to replace those that are lost, to remove this potential discontent and to ensure the peace process is reinforced by economic advancement for ordinary people, are emerging as political priorities of the process.

If peace is secured, the private sector will deliver some benefits. Tourism could reasonably be expected to double quite quickly, taking up some of the slack in the construction sector through the construction or conversion of new hotels and restaurants, and creating up to 10,000 jobs. The prospects for inward investment will be much en-

hanced. In the past, the Industrial Development Board (IDB) has struggled to lure new industries to maintain the dynamic of a healthy industrial sector. It has underwritten some pretty doubtful projects — from the de Lorean motor works to the Hualon textile project, now being re-examined by the European Commission. Yet Britain and the Irish Republic have generally been extremely successful at attracting inward investment.

Despite the difficulties, the IDB has managed to promote the creation of 500 jobs a year, on average, over the past 20 years. According to the CBI, "It may not be unrealistic to expect this figure to increase to at least 2,000 jobs per annum within two to three years."

New jobs, and an economic recovery, probably will follow if the peace process succeeds. The challenge, amid this hotbed of armed hostilities, is to avoid the kind of bust-first, boom-later pattern that occurred in East Germany or the Czech Republic as economic restructuring followed the collapse of the Berlin Wall.

The CBI, and others, argue that it is critical to maintain the level of state support through the transition. They calculate that a "peace dividend", estimated at £40 million this year, will rise gradually to £350 million a year by 1998. This cash, they say, should be spent within the province: on infrastructure, and above all on providing 20,000 training places to help the long-term unemployed back into gainful employment.

The Government's Private Finance Initiative can help, drawing in private sector cash for investment in modernising the water supply system and railway. And international funds, including those of the European Union, can improve transport links to mainland Britain and the Irish Republic.

Perhaps the most important task is to change perceptions of Northern Ireland in mainland Britain and the rest of the world. If Northern Ireland is to prosper, companies from around the world must not just invest there, but also buy products there. This week's Investment Forum, which will draw together political and business leaders, is designed to bring that about.

103,152 people on December 15, 1979, by Boeing in Seattle, and that the largest commercially available Christmas card measures 2 1/4 x 5 1/4 ins, which novelty gift company Boxer of Bradford says has a print run of 10,000, costs £9.99, and requires a 50p stamp in post. Hildebrand's Advent card also tells me Polar bears can outrun reindeer, and that the Eskimo language has 20 different words for snow.

**All-Swede**  
THE revolt by Swedish shareholders that last year forced Volvo to break off a planned automotive merger with Renault of France, has allowed Volvo to wave the national flag once again. Volvo Car Corporation has named a new executive vice-president, Thomas Svensson — and you can hardly be more Swedish than that!

**Trivia time again**  
HILDEBRAND Design, fresh from a year of innovations that includes a brochure for British Gas printed in 12 languages, is sending festive greetings in the form of an Advent calendar. From this I learn that the largest office Christmas party was held in two parts with a total of

## RADIO CHOICE

# Williamson's Barrymore

The Monday Play: Jack — A Night on the Town with John Barrymore. Radio 4, 7.45pm.

As all the world knows, the actor Nicol Williamson went through theatrical hell when he staged this one-man show in London earlier this year. It was a hell of his own making, and, somehow or other, he survived it. Otherwise, we would not have tonight's radio version of his scorching monologue. Barrymore, like Williamson, was no stranger to a self-made hell. On stage, and now on air, Williamson's Barrymore is uncannily truthful to Barrymore's Barrymore. He too much drink, too many women. And yet, he periodically managed to find way past Scylla and Charybdis because, on stage, he became master of all he surveyed, and of all who surveyed him.

Let Down Your Hair. World Service, 3.15pm.

One of the spin-offs of the Pre-Raphaelite philosophy that had somehow escaped my notice was that for a woman to go out into the street with long hair, would be as bad as a woman of today salting forth in her underwear. The explanation offered in Elizabeth Diab's history of changing attitudes to women's hair is that long tresses signalled erotic images connected with the bedroom. Until this theory next time I study what I had always believed to be two utterly respectable Pre-Raphaelite ladies — Waterhouse's Lady of Shalott and Dante Gabriel Rossetti's Aspidochelone. They did not strike me as having just had a short back-and-forth.

## RADIO 1

FM Stereo, 4.00am Bruno Brookes 6.30 Steve Wright 8.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Lynn Parsons with the Lunchtime Show, including at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat 2.00 Mark Goodier 4.00 Nicky Campbell with Drivetime, including at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat 7.00 Evening Session, with Steve Lamacq and Jo Whiley 9.00 Shutehouse's Showtime 10.00 Mark Radcliffe 12.00 Claire Sturgess

## RADIO 2

FM Stereo, 6.00am Sarah Kennedy with the Early Show 6.15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce, including at 10.00 Pick of the Hits 11.30 Jimmy Young 12.00am Gloria Hunniford 8.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Hubert Gregg: Thanks for the Memory 7.30 Malcolm Lockwood with Dance Band Days, and at 8.00 by Band Era 8.00 Big Band Special 9.00 Humphrey Lyttelton with the Best of Jazz 10.00 Jazz Score. Benny Green chairs the jazz quiz from the 100 Club, London 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Digby Fairweather with Jazz Notes 1.00 Steve Madden with Night Rider 2.00-6.00 Alex Lester

## RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, including at 6.45 and 7.45 Racing Preview 8.35 The Magazine, including at 10.35 Euronews and at 11.00 Actuality 12.00 Midday with the 12.00pm News 12.15pm Moneycheck, with Liz Bardsley 2.05 Ruscoe on Five 4.00 John Inverdale Nationwide 7.00 News Extra, including at 7.20 the day's sport in full 7.25 Sportsweek: music and sporting memories from 1982 8.00 The Monday Match: Manchester City v Arsenal 10.05 News Talk, with Neil Dixon 11.00 Nightline, including at 11.45 The Financial World Tonight 12.05am The Other Side of Midnight 2.00 Up All Night

## RADIO 3

6.55am Weather 7.00 On Air, with Andrew McGregor, MacCormac, and (Overture, The Land of the Mountain and the Flood), Busastute (Songs in C for two violins and continuo), Sallinen (Songs from the Sea), Weber, orch Berioz (Invitation to the Dance), Handel (A mid-winter's sonata), Italian Duet (No 6), Haydn (String Quartet in G minor, Op 20 No 3) 8.00 Composer of the Week: Georg Philipp Telemann, including Magnificat: Fantasia: Suite in A minor 10.00 Music Encounters: Bratislava (Hungarian Dances Nos 1-5); Mateo Flecha (Ensalada, La Justia; Britten (The Turn of the Screw, excerpts); Chabrier (Three valses romantiques); Debussy (Prelude) 12.00 The Essential Guide to Plot Devices: The first in a new series about the plots of 1.00pm News; BBC Lunchtime Concert live from St John's, Smith Square, London: Harish Mine, piano, and Gailan Weir, organ. Reubens (Piano Sonata in B flat minor: Sonata in C minor on Psalm 94 for organ) 2.00 BBC National Orchestra of Wales, with the BBC Welsh Chorus and Nonko Ogawa. France, under Grant Llewellyn performs: Ethel Smyth (Overture, The Wreckers) Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No 2), Jordin War (The Road over Lake Constance), Holst (Suite, The Planets) 3.45 Calgary International Organ: Robson introduces the instalment 4.30 Strange Arrangement: The composer, bandleader and pianist Carla Bley talks to Alan Pater about the comic, the controversial and the subversive in her musical career 5.00 The Music Machine, Carl Davis and Patrick Raftery explain the devices used to create night atmospheres on soundtracks 5.15 In Tune, presented by Stephen Plaistow introduces music by Bartok and pieces which have influenced the composer's style, Varèse (Ondine), Berlioz (Ritual Fragment), Stravinsky (Symphonies of Wind Instruments), Bartok (Noces for Ensemble) 10.45 Mixing It with Robert Sandall 11.30-12.30am Music Restored: Francis Kelly performs music for the film Harry by Taboo. Mayone: Frieschold and Luigi Rocci, and accompanies Evelyn Tubb, soprano, in songs by Giacomo Puccini, Landi and Barbara Strozzi

## RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing, incl 6.03 Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, incl 6.30-7.00 8.00-8.30 News 8.45 Weather 7.25-8.25 Scott, News 7.45 The Thought for the Day 8.40 Berlin Special, by Irene Dziedra 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week presented by Melvyn Bragg and Alison Pearson with P J O'Rourke, Joan Smith and Jazzy Mac 10.00-10.30 News; With Great Pleasure (FM only): The poet U A Faulstich's favourite writing 10.00 Daily Service (LW only): from Holy Trinity Church, 10.05am Myrrah, Mad-Glumpigan 10.15 The Hindu Scriptures (LW only): The Wife Who Delected Death In 10.30 Women's Hour: John Murray examines the effects of hormone replacement therapy 11.30 Money Box Live: 071 580 4444, presented by Vincent Duggan 12.00 News; You and Yours 12.25pm Screenplay (LW only): Joanna Higgs the special film quiz 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One 1.40 The Archers 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News; Christmas Eve Can Kill You: A Belfast radio-church becomes an unwitting party to the Christmas burning of the assorted passengers in 3.00 Anderson Country 4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: New CD releases (LW Christmas) 4.30 Strange Arrangement: The composer, bandleader and pianist Carla Bley talks to Alan Pater about the comic, the controversial and the subversive in her musical career 5.00 The Music Machine, Carl Davis and Patrick Raftery explain the devices used to create night atmospheres on soundtracks 5.15 In Tune, presented by Stephen Plaistow introduces music by Bartok and pieces which have influenced the composer's style, Varèse (Ondine), Berlioz (Ritual Fragment), Stravinsky (Symphonies of Wind Instruments), Bartok (Noces for Ensemble) 10.45 Mixing It with Robert Sandall 11.30-12.30am Music Restored: Francis Kelly performs music for the film Harry by Taboo. Mayone: Frieschold and Luigi Rocci, and accompanies Evelyn Tubb, soprano, in songs by Giacomo Puccini, Landi and Barbara Strozzi 4.45 Short Story: Confession, by Clare Boyce 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather 6.00 BBC 1 News 6.30 The Sunday Hour: A Cite: Last in the present series of the anticlockwise to panel games. With Tim Brooke-Jones, Barry Corish, Glanville, Gordon and Willie Rushion (I) 7.00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.20 The Food Programme, with Derek Cogan 7.45 The Monday Play: Jack — A Night on the Town with John Barrymore. See Choice 9.00 Four on a Tour: David Foster introduces the experiences of Americans who, in 1914, set out from Manchester on a 3,000-mile motor holiday around Britain (1/4) (I) 9.30 Kaleidoscope (I) 9.59 Weather 10.00 The World Tonight 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Brazzaville Search: Pina Shaw reads the first of a ten-part adaptation of William Boyd's novel 11.00-11.30 The Street (FM only): St Anne's Road, Haringey, North London (I) 11.30-12.00 Education Matters (LW only), with Times Columnist Libby Purves 11.30-12.00 The Christopher Marlowe Lectures (FM only) by Ged Parsons: Why does an unknown patron find the worst play ever written, and what has become of it? With Melvyn Bragg, Jephcott, Bill Willis and Paul Brooke (I) 12.00-12.30am News, incl 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shipping 12.43 Ac World Service (LW)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.3 RADIO 2: FM 89-90.2 RADIO 3: FM 90.2-92.4, RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m, FM 92.4-94.8, LW 13.5-15.5, 19.5-21.5, 27.5-29.5, 35.5-37.5, 43.5-45.5, 50.5-52.5, 58.5-60.5, 66.5-68.5, 74.5-76.5, 82.5-84.5, 90.5-92.5, 98.5-100.5, 106.5-108.5, 114.5-116.5, 122.5-124.5, 130.5-132.5, 138.5-140.5, 146.5-148.5, 152.5-154.5, 160.5-162.5, 168.5-170.5, 176.5-178.5, 184.5-186.5, 192.5-194.5, 198.5-200.5, 206.5-208.5, 214.5-216.5, 222.5-224.5, 228.5-230.5, 236.5-238.5, 244.5-246.5, 252.5-254.5, 258.5-260.5, 266.5-268.5, 274.5-276.5, 282.5-284.5, 290.5-292.5, 298.5-300.5, 306.5-308.5, 314.5-316.5, 322.5-324.5, 328.5-330.5, 336.5-338.5, 344.5-346.5, 352.5-354.5, 358.5-360.5, 366.5-368.5, 374.5-376.5, 382.5-384.5, 390.5-392.5, 398.5-400.5, 406.5-408.5, 414.5-416.5, 422.5-424.5, 428.5-430.5, 436.5-438.5, 444.5-446.5, 452.5-454.5, 458.5-460.5, 466.5-468.5, 474.5-476.5, 482.5-484.5, 490.5-492.5, 498.5-500.5, 506.5-508.5, 514.5-516.5, 522.5-524.5, 528.5-530.5, 536.5-538.5, 544.5-546.5, 552.5-554.5, 558.5-560.5, 566.5-568.5, 574.5-576.5, 582.5-584.5, 590.5-592.5, 598.5-600.5, 606.5-608.5, 614.5-616.5, 622.5-624.5, 628.5-630.5, 636.5-638.5, 644.5-646.5, 652.5-654.5, 658.5-660.5, 666.5-668.5, 674.5-676.5, 682.5-684.5, 690.5-692.5, 698.5-700.5, 706.5-708.5, 714.5-716.5, 722.5-724.5, 728.5-730.5, 736.5-738.5, 744.5-746.5, 752.5-754.5, 758.5-760.5, 766.5-768.5, 774.5-776.5, 782.5-784.5, 790.5-792.5, 798.5-800.5, 806.5-808.5, 814.5-816.5, 822.5-824.5, 828.5-830.5, 836.5-838.5, 844.5-846.5, 852.5-854.5, 858.5-860.5, 866.5-868.5, 874.5-876.5, 882.5-884.5, 890.5-892.5, 898.5-900.5, 906.5-908.5, 914.5-916.5, 922.5-924.5, 928.5-930.5, 936.5-938.5, 944.5-946.5, 952.5-954.5, 958.5-960.5, 966.5-968.5, 974.5-976.5, 982.5-984.5, 990.5-992.5, 998.5-1000.5, 1006.5-1008.5, 1014.5-1016.5, 1022.5-1024.5, 1028.5-1030.5, 1036.5-1038.5, 1044.5-1046.5, 1052.5-1054.5, 1058.5-1060.5, 1066.5-1068.5, 1074.5-1076.5, 1082.5-1084.5, 1090.5-1092.5, 1098.5-1100.5, 1106.5-1108.5, 1114.5-1116.5, 1122.5-1124.5, 1128.5-1130.5, 1136.5-1138.5, 1144.5-1146.5, 1152.5-1154.5, 1158.5-1160.5, 1166.5-1168.5, 1174.5-1176.5, 1182.5-1184.5, 1190.5-1192.5, 1198.5-1200.5, 1206.5-1208.5, 1214.5-1216.5, 1222.5-1224.5, 1228.5-1230.5, 1236.5-1238.5, 1244.5-1246.5, 1252.5-1254.5, 1258.5-1260.5, 1266.5-1268.5, 1274.5-1276.5, 1282.5-1284.5, 1290.5-1292.5, 1298.5-1300.5, 1306.5-1308.5, 1314.5-1316.5, 1322.5-1324.5, 1328.5-1330.5, 1336.5-1338.5, 1344.5-1346.5, 1352.5-1354.5, 1358.5-1360.5, 1366.5-1368.5, 1374.5-1376.5, 1382.5-1384.5, 1390.5-1392.5, 1398.5-1400.5, 1406.5-1408.5, 1414.5-1416.5, 1422.5-1424.5, 1428.5-1430.5, 1436.5-1438.5, 1444.5-1446.5, 1452.5-1454.5, 1458.5-1460.5, 1466.5-1468.5, 1474.5-1476.5, 1482.5-1484.5, 1490.5-1492.5, 1498.5-1500.5, 1506.5-1508.5, 1514.5-1516.5, 1522.5-1524.5, 1528.5-1530.5, 1536.5-1538.5, 1544.5-1546.5, 1552.5-1554.5, 1558.5-1560.5, 1566.5-1568.5, 1574.5-1576.5, 1582.5-1584.5, 1590.5-1592.5, 1598.5-1600.5, 1606.5-1608.5, 1614.5-1616.5, 1622.5-1624.5, 1628.5-1630.5, 1636.5-1638.5, 1644.5-1646.5, 1652.5-1654.5, 1658.5-1660.5, 1666.5-1668.5, 1674.5-1676.5, 1682.5-1684.5, 1690.5-1692.5, 1698.5-1700.5, 1706.5-1708.5, 1714.5-1716.5, 1722.5-1724.5, 1728.5-1730.5, 1736.5-1738.5, 1744.5-1746.5, 1752.5-1754.5, 1758.5-1760.5, 1766.5-1768.5, 1774.5-1776.5, 1782.5-1784.5, 1790.5-1792.5, 1798.5-1800.5, 1806.5-1808.5, 1814.5-1816.5, 1822.5-1824.5, 1828.5-1830.5, 1836.5-1838.5, 1844.5-1846.5, 1852.5-1854.5, 1858.5-1860.5, 1866.5-1868.5, 1874.5-1876.5, 1882.5-1884.5, 1890.5-1892.5, 1898.5-1900.5, 1906.5-1908.5, 1914.5-1916.5, 1922.5-1924.5, 1928.5-1930.5, 1936.5-1938.5, 1944.5-1946.5, 1952.5-1954.5, 1958.5-1960.5, 1966.5-1968.5, 1974.5-1976.5, 1982.5-1984.5, 1990.5-1992.5, 1998.5-2000.5, 2006.5-2008.5, 2014.5-2016.5, 2022.5-2024.5, 2028.5-2030.5, 2036.5-2038.5, 2044.5-2046.5, 2052.5-2054.5, 2058.5-2060.5, 2066.5-2068.5, 2074.5-2076.5, 2082.5-2084.5, 2090.5-2092.5, 2098.5-2100.5, 2106.5-2108.5, 2114.5-2116.5, 2122.5-2124.5, 2128.5-2130.5, 2136.5-2138.5, 2144.5-2146.5, 2152.5-2154.5, 2158.5-2160.5, 2166.5-2168.5, 2174.5-2176.5, 2182.5-2184.5, 2190.5-2192.5, 2198.5-2200.5, 2206.5-2208.5, 2214.5-2216.5, 2222.5-2224.5, 2228.5-2230.5, 2236.5-2238.5, 2244.5-2246.5, 2252.5-2254.5, 2258.5-2260.5, 2266.5-2268.5, 2274.5-2276.5, 2282.5-2284.5, 2290.5-2292.5, 2298.5-23



# An adaptation Farr better than at first sight

Some years ago, when the half-price theatre ticket booth opened in Leicester Square, a reporter from Radio 4's *Today* conducted an interview with an out-of-towner in the queue. "Do you go to the West End theatre often?" he asked. "Yes, the wife and I like to make the special journey up to London once a year, take in a show, have a meal, and so on." "Do you mind if I ask where you live?" "No, not at all. Wimbledon." I mention this because Henry Farr, the hero of Nigel Williams' hilarious book *The Wimbledon Poisoner*, always brought this boring man to mind: a man whose fragrance is the essence of Brieux, a character James Thurber might have drawn from memory. In fact, in the week that saw the centenary of James Thurber's birth pass almost unremarked, the arrival of Henry Farr on television might be seen as a modern tribute to the timid, defeated little men

in Thurber's world, whose large, thing-like, inexplicably shrill voices loitered on top of bookcases, menacingly, on all fours. Thurber's was not a progressive view of sexual politics, of course, but on the other hand it's quite true that men and women are different species, and that they mainly want to kill each other, so why waste the comic potential? Thurber's surreal short story "Mr Prebble Gets Rid of His Wife" may be nasty but it's also very funny. "Let's go down in the cellar," Mr Prebble urges his spouse, transparently. "We never go down in the cellar any more. The way we used to." To what sophisticated critical point is the almost interminable preamble leading? Well, possibly to that old contemptible whinge, that Robert Lindsay in last night's adaptation of *The Wimbledon Poisoner* (BBC1) was just not right for Henry Farr, not by a long chalk. That's all; it's something

and nothing; it won't detain us long; it just needs saying. Lindsay is the wrong physical type: good-looking, nimble, and not at all fat with glasses that are obviously cosmetic. If this man lived in Maple Drive, Wimbledon he would soon forget about killing his own wife, on account of having lots of fun with everyone else's. So it is incredibly lucky that Robert Lindsay is also a wonderful, physical comic actor who can get a laugh just by standing with his back to the camera and opening a kitchen cupboard. Also, he is a master of blank incomprehension — and the other point about Henry Farr is that he is an ordinary kind of bloke, with limited, blockish powers of empathy. In the course of the mayhem he inflicts — Farr tries to kill his wife (Alison Steadman), but succeeds in killing his friends and neighbours instead — he is obliged

Farr discovers some bulldog resolve. "Donald may be boring, he may be complacent, he may be one of the worst doctors in the Western world! But he's a 40-year-old Englishman! I mean, he's someone to drink with, for Christ's sake!" After months — or possibly years — of bombast, diphtheria and egg powder in the hugely demoralising *Seaforth*, this two-part *Wimbledon Poisoner* is like Kew Gardens blooming in a desert. Leafy suburbs, lots to eat, big colourful performances, and regular comic set-pieces — in Donald's words, it's "to die for". Donald's funeral, at which the vicar relates the life story of a completely different person, was one of the funniest things on television this year. "We think of those left behind," he said, "the mourning disfigure a baffled congregation." Of Norman, of Jean-Paul, and of little Beatrice who feels this as deeply as anyone,

including the Sussex branch of the family who, because of the railway accident you all know about, cannot be with us here today."

Finally, Channel 4 reminded us that there is one activity which unites all these battling parties — men and women, east and west: viz. shopping for cook-chill in M & S. High Interest: The World According to St Michael was an absorbing study of Marks and Spencer at work, a business whose resemblances to a global religion don't only include depth of penetration. For a start, alone at the apex, one man issues dietary edicts about soup and cheese that affect us all. This is Sir Richard Greenbury, chairman, who moreover expresses charming surprise at seeing women in executive positions. In the good old days, they were confined to Personnel. Afternoon, gentlemen!" he booms, arriving for a working lunch. "And ladies!" he adds, with considerably less enthusiasm.



Lynne Truss

to grapple with notions of life and death, and it's completely beyond him. Just before his quaffing partner Donald (Larry Lamb) is poleaxed by agony after a strange Greek variety of chicken-consumption in Henry's kitchen ("Aah! Mmm! Oooh!"), Farr panics hilariously in the hall, debating the merits of saving his life. Donald has had a good innings, hasn't he? But then

**BBC1**

6.00 Business Breakfast with Paul Burden, Sara Cokum and Heather Payton (20:05)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News presented by Nicholas Witchell and Jill Dando (20:29:30)

9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (s) (09:55:27)

10.00 News (CeeFax), regional news and weather (09:28:12) 10.05 Good Morning With Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine series introduced by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen (s) (46:07:29)

12.00 News (CeeFax), regional news and weather (12:07:23) 12.05 Pebble MILL. Lunchtime entertainment hosted by Alan Titchmarsh (s) (03:22:70) 12.55 Regional News and weather (14:52:04)

1.00 One O'Clock News (CeeFax) and weather (24:12)

1.30 Neighbours. (CeeFax) (s) (35:03:38) 1.50 The Great British Quiz. The question-master is Philip Heyton (s) (37:07:02)

2.15 Knots Landing. American drama series (s) (42:04:54) 3.00 Today's Gourmet. Jacques Pepin prepares a traditional meal for a Sunday gathering (43:00)

3.30 Caroline (20:05:41) 3.45 Monster Café (s) (20:00:08) 4.00 Mortimer and Andy (s) (27:05:57) 4.15 The All New Poppye Show (s) (50:03:05) 4.35 Mighty Max (s) (53:32:44)

5.00 Newsround (20:05:17) 5.05 Blue Peter. (CeeFax) (s) (43:48:19)

5.35 Neighbours. (s) (CeeFax) (s) (57:06:76)

6.00 Six O'Clock News (CeeFax) and weather (36:7)

6.30 Regional News Magazines (34:7)

7.00 Telly Addicts. The second semi-final of the television trivia quiz (s) (03:07)

7.30 Watchdog. Anne Robinson presents the consumer affairs magazine. (CeeFax) (s) (03:1)

8.00 EastEnders. (CeeFax) (s) (50:15)

8.30 The Brittas Empire. Comedy series starring Chris Barrie as the officious manager of a council-owned leisure centre. (CeeFax) (s) (45:22)

9.00 News O'Clock News (CeeFax), regional news and weather (72:18)

9.30 Panorama. Not So Great Railway Journeys. Will the Government be able to get the privatisation of the railways back on track before the next general election? (CeeFax) (22:21:12)

**10.10 FILM: The Driver (1978)** starring Ryan O'Neal and Bruce Dern. A gripping thriller about a policeman's obsession with catching an expert getaway driver. Directed by Walter Hill. (CeeFax) (50:21:16)

**11.40 Film 94 With Barry Norman.** Among the films reviewed are *Princess Caraboo*, *Thelma & Louise* and *Neverending Story III*. (CeeFax) (s) (53:52:39)

**12.10 News.** Easy news (19:08) starring Gerald McPhee. A comedy series about the hunt for a serial killer who preys on teenage girls. Directed by Sandor Stern (71:55)

1.45 Weather (30:10:77). Ends at 1.50

3.00-3.30 BBC Select: RCN Nursing Update (s) (06:08:4)

**BBC2**

7.00 Tales Of The Tooth Fairies (s) (42:06:57) 7.05 Purrtybones (s) (s) (42:08:28) 7.10 Thundercats (s) (s) (42:08:28) 7.35 Record Breakers (s). (CeeFax) (s) (04:38:38)

8.00 Breakfast News. (CeeFax and signing) (06:31:38) 8.15 The Record (42:06:22)

8.35 Made by Man (s) (05:03:38) 8.50 A Week to Remember (b/w) (42:17:18) 9.00 Lyn Marshall's Everyday Yoga (s) (71:02:18) 9.10 Crawshaw Points Oils (s) (43:33:37) 9.35 The Way of the Lark (s) (58:76:45) 10.00 Playdays (s) (s) (51:06:76)

10.25 FILM: Variety Time (1948, b/w). A compilation of vaudeville acts. Directed by Hal Yates (51:06:25)

11.25 FILM: Desperate Search (1952, b/w). A father searches the Canadian wilderness for his young children. Directed by Joseph Lewis (11:13:37)

12.30 Working Lunch (77:18) 1.00 Fingermouse (s) (44:25:51) 1.15 The Rich Traditions (37:15:41) 1.45 Making Tracks (s) (80:15:73)

2.10 FILM: The Defiant Ones (1958) Two escaped prisoners are on the run in the swamps of the American Deep South. Directed by David Lowell Rich. (CeeFax). Includes News and weather at 3.00 (42:15:80)

3.50 News (CeeFax) and weather (40:37:25)

4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz (s) (56:0)

4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (s) (74:4)

5.00 Esther. Studio discussion series (s) (74:3)

5.30 Catchword. (s) (11:6)

6.00 Buck Rogers in the 25th Century (s) (80:30:15)

6.50 Lucinda Lambton's Alphabet of Britain. G is for Glazed (s). (CeeFax) (s) (76:76:76)

7.00 The World at War: Home Fires (s). (CeeFax) (s) (54:1)

8.00 Horizon: Orange Sherbet Kisses. (s) (63:78:3)

**9.50 Human Rights, Human Wrongs: Genocide.** (CeeFax) (s) (44:55:22)

9.00 Steptoe and Son (s). (CeeFax) (06:00)

9.30 Martin Chuzzlewit. (CeeFax) (s) (54:45:4)

10.30 Newswatch. (CeeFax) (43:30:15)

11.15 Human Rights, Human Wrongs: Genocide (s). (CeeFax) (s) (27:25:2)

11.25 10 x 10: Hitting the Spot (CeeFax) (s) (23:30:5)

11.35 Back to Square One (s) (81:32:18)

11.55 Weather (78:45:4)

12.00 News followed by The Midnight Hour (21:20:23). Ends at 12.55am

4.45-5.00 BBC Select: Disability Agenda (06:71:05:5)

**CHOICE**

**In the Wild: Tigers with Bob Hoskins** (9.00pm)

Long before he became famous as a British Telecom salesman, Bob Hoskins worked in a circus. That was when he first saw a tiger. He says tigers still mean more to him than any other animal and he is apt to get quite lyrical about them. All of which explains why Hoskins should be the host of a wildlife film which goes in search of tigers in Indonesia and Nepal. Spurred on by the thought that if the poachers get their way there may soon be no more tigers left, Hoskins scrambles up onto an elephant and bravely ventures into the boiling jungles of Asia. Although sightings prove elusive, his actor's sense of the dramatic drives the show along. In fact, it is quite a performance. The tigers, when they do appear, are definitely upstaged.

**Dimrit Nabokov sees letters as colours (BBC2, 8pm)**

Horizon: Orange Sherbet Kisses (8.00pm)

Teresa Hunt's diverging film is about synaesthesia, a long word for a simple concept. It describes a type of perception where senses normally separate are mixed. An American woman recalls that when she was kissed by her boyfriend, she saw orange sherbet. Vladimir Nabokov, the writer, associated letters with colours, as does his son, Dimrit. The composer Bernstein said: "I see colours whenever I hear sounds." Scientists used to dismiss the condition as the product of vivid imagination. Now they are taking it seriously. Some say we are all synaesthetes, but that few of us are aware of it. A rival theory puts synaesthesia down to the brain modules being connected in a way that does not happen in most people.

**Human Rights, Human Wrongs: Genocide** (BBC2, 8.50pm)

The French actress Jeanne Moreau launches a week of short films highlighting man's inhumanity to man, and, for that matter, woman. Her theme is genocide and while touching on Hitler, Pol Pot and Saddam Hussein, she draws much of her material from the awful events in Rwanda. In just 11 weeks up to one million people died and another two million had fled abroad. Moreau puts part of the blame on France, for continuing to arm the aggressors even after the massacres began, and castigates the international community for lack of moral leadership. Other programmes feature Dr David Jenkins, former Bishop of Durham, on slavery, Whoopi Goldberg on women's rights and John Mortimer on the death penalty.

**The World at War: Home Fires** (BBC2, 7.00pm)

Jeremy Isaacs's tremendous television history of the Second World War is now more than 20 years old, yet in its scope and ambition the project is unlikely to be surpassed. Not only do the 26 episodes add up to an impressive whole but each part is an achievement in itself, a mix of archive film and first-hand accounts (many by figures now dead) presented with skill and integrity. At the same time Isaacs and his team were not afraid to revise the accepted picture. Tonight's portrait of the British home front, for example, does not omit ITMA and Vera Lynn. But nor does it try to hide the tensions within a nation which, despite a cheerful public face, was becoming increasingly weary of the struggle.

**CARLTON**

6.00 GMTV (51:46:78)

9.25 Supermarket Sweep. Shopping game show (s) (04:49:28) 9.55 London Today (Teletext) and weather (53:07:25)

10.00 The Time... The Place (s) (74:11:02)

10.35 This Morning (53:24:74) 12.20 London Today (Teletext) and weather (33:27:24)

12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (02:25:09)

12.55 Coronation Street (s). (Teletext) (02:08:00) 1.25 Home and Away. Australian family drama. (Teletext) (53:06:24)

1.55 Capital Woman with Annette Rice, Stephen Gardner and Patti Coldwell (01:30:725) 2.25 A Country Practice. Medical drama set in the Australian outback (s). (03:37:305) 2.50 The Young Doctors. Hospital drama (58:32:47)

3.20 ITN News headlines (57:08:05) 3.25 London Today (Teletext) and weather (67:07:56)

3.30 Rainbow (s) (20:16:57) 3.40 Tots TV (s) (40:13:67) 3.50 St Tiggywinkles Special (s) (28:02:51) 4.20 Sooty and Co (s) (58:06:38) 4.45 Warner Brothers Cartoon featuring Bugs Bunny (18:49:54) 4.50 How 2. Fun and facts show with Fred Dinegar, Carol Vorderman and Gareth Jones (58:06:38)

5.10 After 5 (74:07:08)

5.40 Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (17:31:12)

5.55 Your Show. Viewers' soapbox (51:59:0)

6.00 Home and Away (s). (Teletext) (76:3)

6.30 London Tonight. (Teletext) (26:5)

7.00 **NEW** Wish You Were Here? Judith Chalmers self-cajoles in Majorca. John Carver visits Wicklow and Anna Waller goes skiing in Western Canada. (Teletext) (s) (47:6)

7.30 Coronation Street. (Teletext) (29:9)

8.00 Wheel of Fortune. Game show hosted by Nicky Campbell and Carol Smilie (09:03)

8.30 World In Action. Mike Games. An investigation into the work of Paul Britton, a criminal psychologist (s) (02:18)

**9.00 In the Wild: Tigers with Bob Hoskins.** (Teletext) (s) (25:1)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (05:38) 10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (94:37:03)

10.40 The London Comedy Festival introduced by Craig Ferguson (s) (01:20:25)

11.40 The Quizzer (45:55:22)

12.40 The Little Picture Show (06:35:38)

1.40 Endelsham League Football Extra (02:57:32)

2.25 FILM: Santee (1973) starring Glenn Ford. Western drama about a bounty hunter who inherits the son of an outlaw. Directed by Gary Nelson (37:16:05)

4.05 Strategy and Tactics... The Bobby Rabb Story. IndyCar racing (14:14:48)

4.30 Videoflash (44:41:1)

5.00 Hollywood Report. Showbusiness gossip (56:11)

5.30 ITN Morning News (28:74). Ends at 6.00

**CHANNEL 4**

6.35 Terrytoons. Classic cartoon series (73:19:09)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (47:763)

9.00 You Bet Your Life (s) (05:763)

9.30 FILM: Billy Rose's Jumbo (1962) starring Dore Day, Jimmy Durante, Stephen Boyd and Dean Jagger. A circus drama with music (Rogers and Hart songs, Busby Berkeley choreography) about the fight to save a Big Top falling into the arms of a badie. Directed by Charles Walters (24:35:00)

11.45 An Artist Looks at Churches. John Piper examines the beauties and inspirations of ecclesiastical architecture through the centuries (74:02:00)

12.00 Right To Reply (s). (Teletext) (s) (02:29:9)

12.30 Sesame Street with Whoopi Goldberg (38:12) 1.30 Hullabaloo (s). Followed by Fourways Farm (s) (22:30:5)

2.00 FILM: Gidget (1965, b/w) starring Sandra Dee, James Darren and Cliff Robertson. Teen comedy romance about the heartache experienced by a teenager when she falls for a college student surfer on Malibu Beach. Directed by Paul Wendkos (14:49:54)

3.45 Joe McDookes: So You Think You Are a Nervous Wreck. Office worker Joe visits an unstable psychiatrist (20:05:04)

4.00 Garden Club. Roy Lancaster and Matthew Biggs present the first of a three-part series of highlights from Britain's gardens (s). (Teletext) (02:2)

4.30 Fifteen To One. (Teletext) (s) (81:2)

5.00 The Late Late Show (s) (16:78)

6.00 Hangin' With Mr Cooper. American comedy series starring Mark Curry. (Teletext) (s) (30:5)

6.30 The Cosby Show (s). (Teletext) (05:7)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (28:81:9)

7.50 The Slot. Viewer access series (24:25:09)

8.00 People First: Fit For Life. An award-winning documentary in which epilepsy-sufferers explain how they refuse to let the condition rule their lives (s). (Teletext) (67:25)

8.30 Desmond's. More barbershop comedy starring Norman Beaton. (Teletext) (s) (37:0)

**9.00 Cutting Edge: The Club.** A repeat of the controversial film about Northwood Golf Club, filmed earlier this year, that led to club directors resigning. (Teletext) (79:13)

**10.00 I'll Fly Away.** Drama series set in the American Deep South at the time of the civil rights movement, starring Sam Waterston. (Teletext) (s) (03:37:03)

**10.55 The American Football Big Match.** Chicago Bears v Green Bay Packers; San Francisco 49ers v San Diego Chargers; and Minnesota Vikings v Buffalo Bills (22:24:18)

**12.15am Transworld Sport (s)** (34:24:15)

**1.20 Evening Shade.** American comedy series starring Bart Reynolds (s). (s) (57:08:08)

**1.50 FILM: Arlene Phillips (1992, b/w)** starring John and Linnéa Barrymore. Comedy thriller about a Parisian gentleman thief and the detective who is on his trail. Directed by Jack Conway (02:20:77). Ends at 3.20

**ANGLIA**

As London except 1.55 A Country Practice (05:15:41) 2.00 Houseparty (02:20:00) 2.50-3.00 News (05:15:41) 3.00-3.30 News (05:15:41) 3.30-3.45 News (05:15:41) 3.45-4.00 News (05:15:41) 4.00-4.15 News (05:15:41) 4.15-4.30 News (05:15:41) 4.30-4.45 News (05:15:41) 4.45-5.00 News (05:15:41) 5.00-5.15 News (05:15:41) 5.15-5.30 News (05:15:41) 5.30-5.45 News (05:15:41) 5.45-6.00 News (05:15:41) 6.00-6.15 News (05:15:41) 6.15-6.30 News (05:15:41) 6.30-6.45 News (05:15:41) 6.45-7.00 News (05:15:41) 7.00-7.15 News (05:15:41) 7.15-7.30 News (05:15:41) 7.30-7.45 News (05:15:41) 7.45-8.00 News (05:15:41) 8.00-8.15 News (05:15:41) 8.15-8.30 News (05:15:41) 8.30-8.45 News (05:15:41) 8.45-9.00 News (05:15:41) 9.00-9.15 News (05:15:41) 9.15-9.30 News (05:15:41) 9.30-9.45 News (05:15:41) 9.45-10.00 News (05:15:41) 10.00-10.15 News (05:15:41) 10.15-10.30 News (05:15:41) 10.30-10.45 News (05:15:41) 10.45-11.00 News (05:15:41) 11.00-11.15 News (05:15:41) 11.15-11.30 News (05:15:41) 11.30-11.45 News 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## Rises over 5% tipped for 40% of chairmen

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

TWO-FIFTHS of Britain's company chairmen and chief executives expect to receive pay rises above 5 per cent next year and some expect 16 per cent or more.

A survey of 5,000 directors by the Institute of Directors and Reward, the pay research group, shows that, on average, company directors believe they will receive only 3 per cent rises. But the large minority expecting increases of at least double the rate of inflation will add fuel to rows over company leaders' pay rises.

The Commons' all-party Employment Select Committee is to mount an inquiry in the new year into executive pay increases and salary levels, especially in the privatised utilities, in the wake of the farrago over the new board pay structures at British Gas. Scrutiny of high corporate pay rises is also being carried out by ministers in a specially established Cabinet sub-group. The MPs are likely to call in the heads of water, electricity and telecommunications companies, as well as British Gas to give evidence.

The IoD and Reward emphasise the low average rises received by directors over the past year and the still-low levels forecast for the next 12 months, suggesting that both have been around 3 per cent.

Over the past 12 months, 17 per cent had no pay rise and 1 per cent had a pay cut, with one in ten predicting a nil increase for themselves over the next year.

The IoD and Reward say that "directors have again shown restraint and had rises in line with those received by other groups of workers". Average pay for company directors with a turnover of up to £25 million is now almost £42,000, and £53,000 for managing directors — although total packages, including company cars and many other fringe benefits, are higher.

Tim McVittie-Ross, IoD Director-General, says the evidence "confirms that the high-

profile salaries and rises are not representative and give the wrong impression".

Detailed findings of the study suggest, however, that many company leaders are getting and expecting pay rises much higher than other groups. Among chairmen, 19 per cent had rises of more than 10 per cent last year, and 7 per cent had rises of 16 per cent or more. Two-fifths expect to receive rises of at least 5 per cent again this year, though the number forecasting increases of more than 16 per cent has halved.

Steve Flather, Reward's managing director, acknowledges that this may "raise an eyebrow", but maintains such rises are usually performance-related or follow "salary sacrifices" in the recession, with company leaders now "returning to their previous pay level as profitability returned".

A survey of City fund managers published over the weekend found most were reluctant to exert any voting influence over boardroom pay. But Alastair Ross Goobey, chief executive of Postel, the biggest pension fund manager, is pushing for the Pensions Bill to require funds to vote their shares at all company annual meetings.

He said yesterday: "With the Pensions Bill coming in soon, a clause in there to force trusts to lodge their proxies would be an easy way of increasing the responsibility of shareholders, which is apparently what the Government is looking for." At present, he says, only about half the pension funds vote at any annual meeting. In the US, trustees are required to vote their shares by law, a rule that has only this autumn been extended to foreign shares. Therefore, American institutional shareholders are required formally to express their views, while British institutions in the same companies are not.



Come and join us: Children at Merton Abbey Primary School, London, watching BOC welders yesterday put the finishing touches to Dex, a 7ft high welding creation being used to launch the BOC Gases Great British Welder competition, which is intended to highlight the skills needed by welders

## Warburg's fate hangs on forcing up its price

BY MARTIN WALLER AND CARL MORTSHED

THE future of SG Warburg, the City securities house, will depend on a rearguard action by Mercury Asset Management, its 75 per cent-owned but separately quoted fund manager arm, aimed at forcing up the price paid for the whole business by Morgan Stanley.

Over the weekend, MAM hired Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank renowned for its expertise in defending hostile takeover bids, to advise on how to ensure the fullest price is paid for the fund manager.

This would conflict with the notion of a merger, preferred by Warburg.

Some City investors are already anxious the £5 billion merger with the American Morgan Stanley would not

fully value Warburg or MAM. And one Warburg insider said: "With a two-to-one divide in the equity, control will go to the more powerful partner, and you would expect to pay them a premium. It seems a complete give-away at that price — we seem to be valuing ourselves at zero."

John Nelson, a director of Lazard, said his bank had been appointed to consider the interests of all MAM shareholders. The non-executive directors of MAM are duty bound to consider the interest of outside shareholders and Warburg cannot vote its majority holding in any eventual poll on the company's future.

Outside shareholders, therefore, are in a strong position to influence events. Among

many uncertainties over the merger is where Morgan Stanley would be based. Morgan Stanley's London base at Canary Wharf, the debt-plagued development on the Isle of Dogs, has recently been expanded.

The Americans occupy the entire building at 25 Cabot Square. Last month, The Times revealed that they had leased a further 350,000 sq ft at 20 Cabot Square, next to their existing building. The area includes two vast dealing floors, each comprising almost 60,000 square feet. The extra space is thought to have been needed for an ambitious expansion into the London market before the idea of a merger with Warburg was mooted.

## Postel enters race to save Stanhope

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

POSTEL, the fund management group, is believed to be putting together a rival rescue plan worth £250 million for the owner of the Broadgate development in the City.

Banks owed £143 million by Stanhope Properties, 50 per cent owner of Broadgate, have set a deadline of a week today for a renegotiation of the loans. There are already two rescues on offer, one from John Ritblat's British Land which owns 29.9 per cent of Stanhope, the other being put together by Schroders and Lazard, the company's advisers.

The Postel plan is thought to involve Stanhope taking full control of Broadgate while the company is refinanced through a rights issue. Most of the group's other activities would then be sold. Alastair

Ross Goobey, chief executive of Postel, which controls the pension funds for BT and the Post Office, declined to comment on weekend reports of the rescue plan. "We make no comment on things that are market-oriented," he said.

But it is understood his company's plan would involve a write-down of Stanhope's debt to somewhere between the 60p in the pound envisaged by Mr Ritblat and the 80p being promoted by the company's advisers.

A spokesman for Stanhope declined to comment on the situation except to confirm that talks were going on between the banks and potential rescuers. Postel's involvement would be as underwriter of most of the £250 million rights issue being proposed.

## Halifax to tell savers of merger progress

BY ROBERT MILLER

THE HALIFAX is expected to write to more than seven million borrowers and savers this week to advise them on the progress and likely timetable of the proposed merger with the Leeds Permanent Building Society.

The letter will help Halifax customers to identify more clearly whether they are members of the society and therefore able to participate in the potential benefits. These benefits, however, will not be realised until the merger has been completed and the combined society, which will be known as the Halifax and have assets of £90 billion, is floated on the stock market. This is expected to happen in 1997.

To be eligible to vote on the proposed merger investing members of the Halifax must have an aggregate balance in their share accounts of at least £100 on January 31 1995. They will also have to keep that balance and remain members until the voting date, which should be next spring. Halifax mortgage borrowers will also have to maintain their loans on the relevant dates.

The 2.5 million members of the Leeds should also receive a similar letter some time this week. Savers with either society who reduce the balance of their share accounts before flotation could be in line for smaller bonuses.

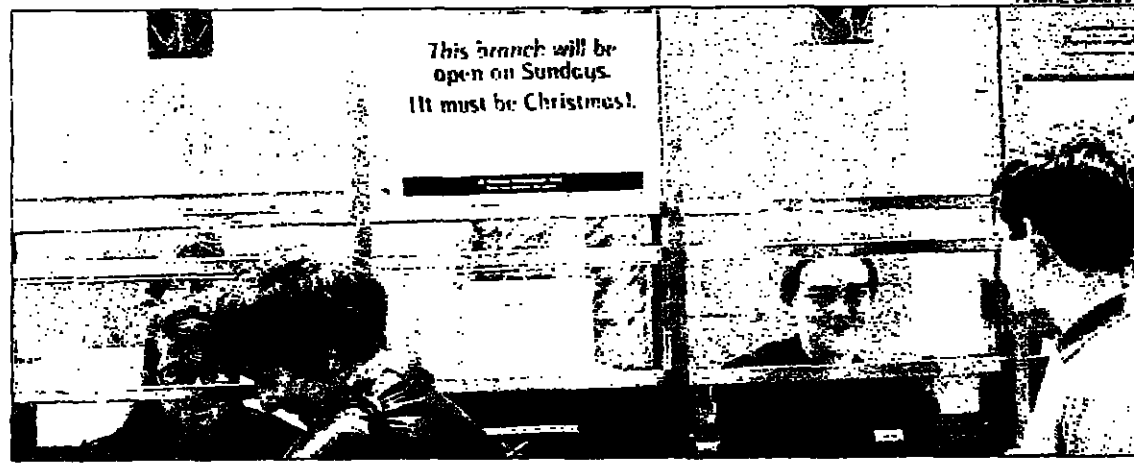
Today the Independent Union of Halifax Staff is expected to sign a joint statement with the society's management on job security and the commitment to full consultation on the merger and how it will affect staff.

Announcement of the merger was originally scheduled for today but had to be brought forward to November 25, which became the qualifying date for members to exercise their entitlements. Just over two weeks ago, mounting rumours in the City of a Leeds-Halifax tie-up surfaced in the national press.

Draft announcements prepared by both sides had to be suddenly released although some in the City were critical of the way in which the vast majority of Halifax and Leeds Permanent members first heard of the tie-up.

## NatWest branches quietly into Sunday banking

BY CATHERINE MILTON



National Westminster Bank's branch in High Street, Romford, open for the first time on a Sunday

ROMFORD'S shoppers yesterday ignored National Westminster Bank's decision to open one branch in the London suburb as part of its trial of Sunday banking.

Outside the branch the High Street almost bustled. Hardly anyone was inside. Volunteer staff, on a premium rate, attended to a few customers paying bills, opening accounts or complaining about one of the cash dispensers refusing to return their cards.

NatWest is opening 23 branches from 10.30am until 3.30pm on the two Sundays before Christmas. It will analyse customer response before deciding what to do after that. The bank reported steady business

at the branches that opened. In Romford, most who turned up were enthusiastic. Gordon Hoskins, 22, had reached the cash limit for withdrawals on his cashpoint card and had been to ask for more money. His view was typical: "I think it's excellent. If you work five or six days a week, like me, it is just like having another Saturday in the week."

John McNamara, senior manager of four NatWest branches in Romford, believes he is responding to demand. Banking unions have resisted Sunday opening. The NatWest Staff Association said members had been expecting a quiet day and volunteers had been attracted by the extra money.

## THE GILT GUIDE

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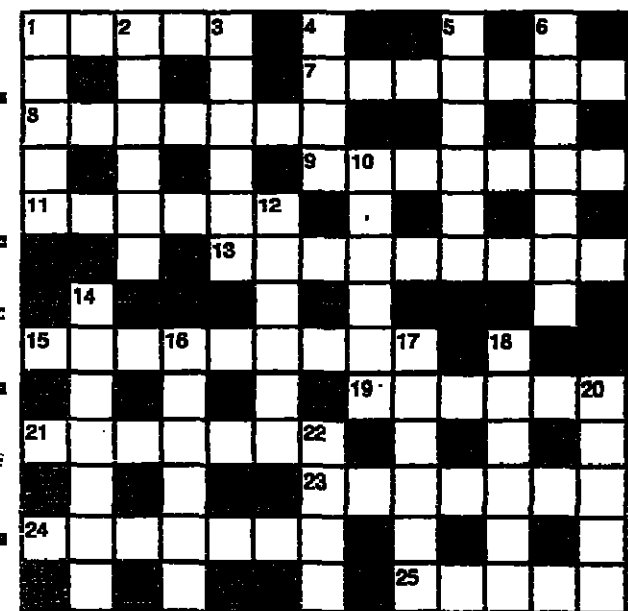
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CROSSWORD BOOKS (Reduced postage until Dec 31): The Times Concise Crosswords (Books 1 & 2 £5.99 each, Books 3, 4, 5 & NEW Book 7 £4.00 each, The Times Jumbo Crosswords (Books 1 & 2 £5.49 each, Concise Book £5.49), The Times Crosswords (Books 1 to 15 £4.49 each, Books 16 to 18 & NEW Book 19 £4.00 each, The Sunday Times Crosswords (Books 1 to 15 £4.99 each, Books 16 to 18 & NEW Book 19 £4.00 each, The Sunday Times Jumbo Crosswords (Books 1 to 15 £4.99 each, Books 16 to 18 & NEW Book 19 £4.00 each, The Sunday Times Concise Crosswords (Books 1 to 15 £4.00 each, Books 16 to 18 & NEW Book 19 £4.00 each, The Sunday Times Crosswords (Books 1 to 15 £4.49 each, Books 16 to 18 & NEW Book 19 £4.00 each, The Sunday Times Jumbo Crosswords (Books 1 to 15 £4.99 each, Books 16 to 18 & NEW Book 19 £4.00 each, The Sunday Times Concise Crosswords (Books 1 to 15 £4.00 each, Books 16 to 18 & NEW Book 19 £4.00 each, The Sunday Times Crosswords (Books 1 to 15 £4.49 each, Books 16 to 18 & NEW Book 19 £4.00 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